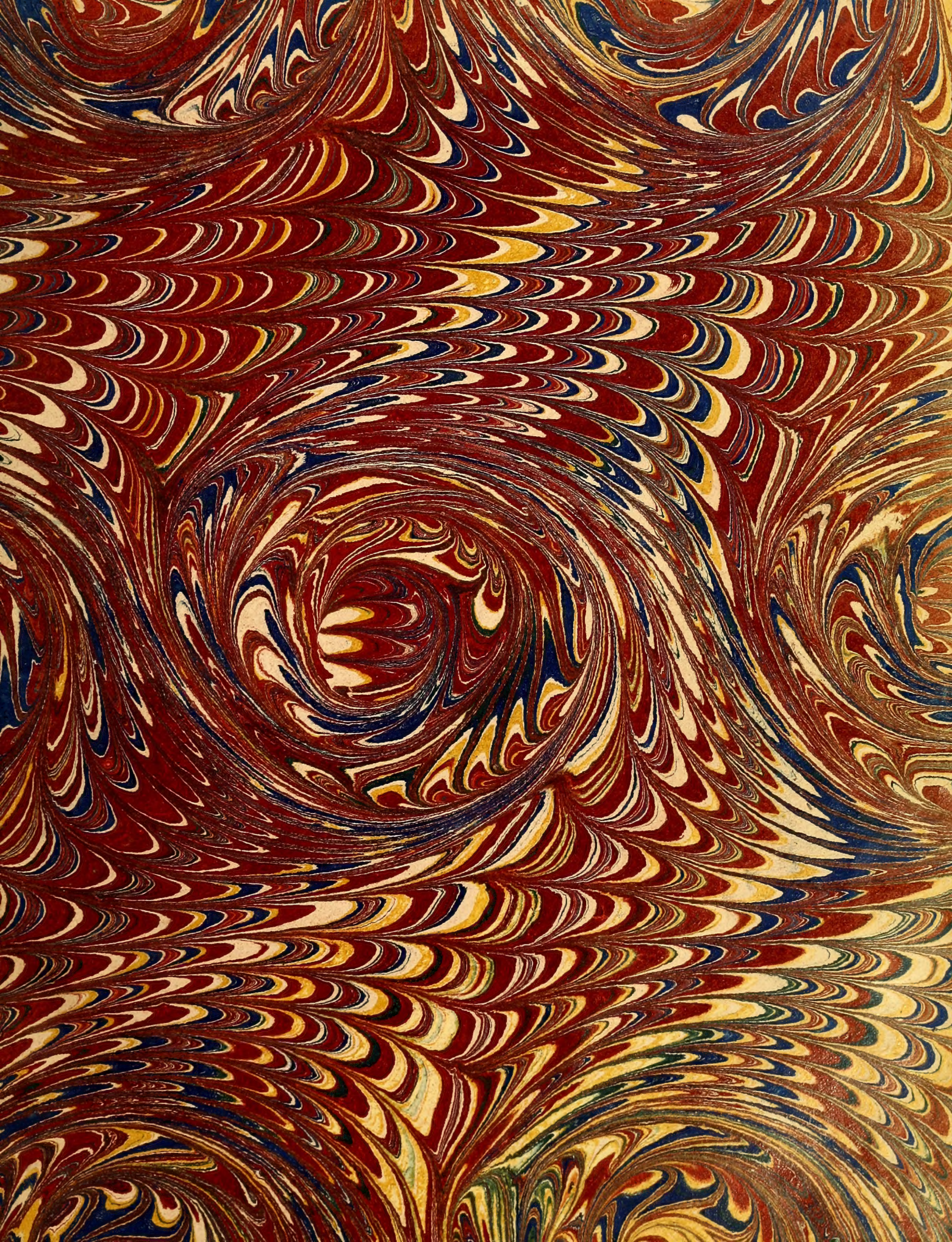


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THE
A P O C R Y P H A:

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THE APOCRYPHAL BOOKS.

THE Alexandrian Jews possessed a sacred literature in the Septuagint translation, and where other works of the same national character were either written in Greek or translated from the Hebrew, these also were appended to the sacred books which they before possessed. But we learn plainly from Josephus that they were not regarded as having any canonical authority. The early Christians received them as part of the sacred literature then extant in Greek, and certain of them ignorantly deemed that they possessed some authority; while others, like Melito, exercised a sound discretion in enquiring what books the Jews held as an authoritative and divine Scripture.

The opinions of Christian writers varied much on the subject: Jerome plainly termed them Apocrypha, and often spoke of them very contemptuously: in the Church of Rome, however, they gradually obtained a high standing, until at length the Council of Trent presumed to anathematise any one who would not receive the greater part of them as authoritative Scripture. Many of the Romish Church endeavour to soften the force of this decree, and they thus call these books Deutero-Canonical; it is, however, clear that the council had no thought of applying the term canonical to these writings in any secondary sense, and that they exalted the legend of Tobit and the *fables* (so termed by Jerome) of Bel and the Dragon to as high an authority as Moses and the Prophets.

ESDRAS.

The book called in the English Apocrypha the first book of Esdras, and in the Latin Vulgate the third book of Esdras (the canonical Ezra and Nehemiah being the first and second), is commonly termed in the Septuagint the *first* book of Esdras, the canonical Ezra being the *second*. This book is simply the canonical Ezra interpreted in a remarkable manner. The Church of Rome even does not receive this book as Holy Scripture, any more than it does the fourth (in the English Bible the *second*) book of Esdras: this latter does not exist any longer in Greek.

TOBIT.

This book is a kind of romance, abounding in anachronism; it has been transmitted in various forms, all of which are considered to have sprung from a Chaldee original: this may have been moulded differently by different copyists. The writer is supposed to have lived from 200 to 150 B.C. The book exhibits the doctrinal system then prevalent amongst the Jews.

JUDITH.

This book is also a romance. It is doubtful whether the Greek is a translation or not. The date of the writing of the book is wholly uncertain. It contains such chronological statements as are quite inconsistent with its being a real history.

ADDITIONS TO ESTHER.

The Apocryphal books previously noticed stand distinct and separate ; but here the case is different. It is as though the Greek translation of the real Ezra had not come down to us, and we only had the Apocryphal Esdras with all its interpolations. The book of Esther is in such a state in Greek that it is impossible to separate the text of the real book without breaking and dividing sentences. The old Latin version which was current before the time of Jerome being made from the Greek, of course comprised the interpolations : that Father rejected them unceremoniously, and they have henceforth stood by themselves in the Vulgate at the end of the book. The division of the book into modern chapters has only increased the confusion ; for thus, in the Vulgate and in the English Apocrypha, these interpolations stand, separated from the places where they had been introduced, as if they were something consecutive. It is remarkable that the Council of Trent, which canonised the additions, did not restore them to the places in which they would have been (as they are in the Greek) at least intelligible.

WISDOM OF SOLOMON.

This book appears to have been written by an Alexandrian Jew, who personates Solomon, and yet describes the nation of Israel in circumstances wholly unlike any that could apply to the time of that king. Probably no fraud was *intended*, but simply a fictitious clothing was given to the thoughts. This book has linguistic value as showing the Hebraic character of Hellenistic Greek, even when employed in original composition. It is also a proof of the early use made of the Septuagint version, from which there are citations.

ECCLESIASTICUS,

OR THE WISDOM OF JESUS THE SON OF SIRACH.

This book was translated into Greek from the Hebrew original by the grandson of the author (as is supposed), about the year 130 B.C. The Hebrew has long been lost.

BARUCH.

It is considered by many that this book is a translation from a Hebrew or Chaldee original. It professes to be from the pen of Baruch, the companion of Jeremiah, but is unquestionably one of the forged prophecies which have made their appearance at various ages. Jerome rejects the book unceremoniously ; and it is probable that none would have received it as authentic Scripture, had it not been that it was appended to the Greek copies of Jeremiah.

ADDITIONS TO DANIEL:

SUSANNA, THE SONG OF THE THREE CHILDREN, AND BEL AND THE DRAGON.

These three *fables*, as they are rightly termed by Jerome, probably originated in Greek: they were affixed to the canonical Daniel in spite of all incongruities, and it is remarkable that some of the early objections to the book of Daniel were founded entirely on these Apocryphal accretions. Since they were canonised by the Council of Trent, some Romish authorities have tried, by the supposition of allegory or parable, to avoid the insuperable difficulties.

M A C C A B E E S.

There are four books of Maccabees extant in Greek, of which, however, the Church of Rome receives only the first two as canonical.

The *first* book of Maccabees is an interesting history, originally written in Hebrew, which is no longer extant, but early translated into Greek as we now have it. It contains the best history that we possess of the Maccabean times.

The *second* book of Maccabees is an abridgment of a work written by Jasen of Cyrene: the Greek text is probably the original. The author expressly repudiates the idea of his being inspired; hence it is wonderful that the Tridentine Fathers should have elevated the book to the place of authoritative Scripture.

The *third* book of Maccabees is a history with fictitious embellishments, in order of time prior to the other books which bear the name of Maccabees. It is received by the Greek Church, but not by the Latin. The author and the age are alike unknown.

The *fourth* book of Maccabees is by some supposed to have been written by Josephus: Greek is the original language. This book was omitted in the Roman edition, and hence some have supposed that it was rejected in the Vatican MS.; that Codex, however, does not contain any of the books of Maccabees: why, therefore, the editors supplied *three* books and not all the four does not appear.

The third and fourth books of Maccabees have been translated for this edition of the Apocrypha.

These books called Apocrypha, though destitute of all *authority*, have much value in connection with the Hellenistic phraseology of the New Testament. The Septuagint version had been formed on a Hebraic mould, so that Hebraisms were sure to manifest themselves; but in those books of the Apocrypha which were originally written in Greek, we find just the same Hebrew cast of thought and expression. Thus the Hellenistic phraseology of the New Testament was not a new thing, even when applied to original composition.

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Ε Σ Δ Ρ Α Σ . Α'.

ΚΑΙ ἤγαγεν Ἰωσίας τὸ πάσχα ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ τῷ Κυρίῳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔθυσε τὸ πάσχα τῇ τεσσαρεσκαίδεκάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ τοῦ μηνὸς 2 τοῦ πρώτου· στήσας τοὺς ἱερεῖς κατ' ἐφημερίας ἐστολισμένους ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ τοῦ Κυρίου.

3 Καὶ εἶπε τοῖς Λευίταις ἱεροδοῦλοις τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ἀγιάσαι ἑαυτοὺς τῷ Κυρίῳ ἐν τῇ θέσει τῆς ἀγίας κιβωτοῦ τοῦ Κυρίου ἐν 4 τῷ οἴκῳ ᾧ ᾠκοδόμησε Σαλωμὼν ὁ τοῦ Δαυὶδ ὁ βασιλεὺς· οὐκ ἔσται ὑμῖν ἄραι ἐπ' ὤμων αὐτήν· καὶ νῦν λατρεύετε τῷ Κυρίῳ Θεῷ ὑμῶν, καὶ θεραπεύετε τὸ ἔθνος αὐτοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ 5 ἐτοιμάσατε κατὰ τὰς πατριάς καὶ τὰς φυλὰς ὑμῶν, κατὰ τὴν γραφὴν Δαυὶδ βασιλέως Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ κατὰ τὴν μεγαλειότητα Σαλωμὼν τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ· καὶ στάντες ἐν τῷ ἁγίῳ κατὰ τὴν μεριдарχίαν τὴν πατρικὴν ὑμῶν τῶν Λευιτῶν, τῶν ἔμπρο- 6 σθεν τῶν ἀδελφῶν ὑμῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ, ἐν τάξει θύσατε τὸ πάσχα, καὶ τὰς θυσίας ἐτοιμάσατε τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς ὑμῶν, καὶ ποιήσατε τὸ πάσχα κατὰ τὸ πρόσταγμα τοῦ Κυρίου τὸ δοθὲν τῷ Μωυσῇ.

7 Καὶ ἐδωρήσατο Ἰωσίας τῷ λαῷ τῷ εὐρεθέντι ἄρνων καὶ ἐρίφων τριάκοντα χιλιάδας, μόσχους τρισχιλίους· ταῦτα ἐκ τῶν βασιλικῶν ἐδόθη κατ' ἐπαγγελίαν τῷ λαῷ, καὶ τοῖς ἱερεῦσι, καὶ 8 Λευίταις. Καὶ ἔδωκε Χελκίας, καὶ Ζαχαρίας, καὶ Σὺηλος οἱ ἐπιστάται τοῦ ἱεροῦ τοῖς ἱερέυσιν εἰς πάσχα πρόβατα δισχίλια 9 ἑξακόσια, μόσχους τριακοσίους. Καὶ Ἰεχονίας, καὶ Σαμαίας, καὶ Ναθαναὴλ ὁ ἀδελφὸς, καὶ Ἀσαβίας, καὶ Ὀχιήλος, καὶ Ἰωρὰμ χιλιάρχοι ἔδωκαν τοῖς Λευίταις εἰς πάσχα πρόβατα πεντακισχίλια, μόσχους ἑπτακοσίους.

10 Καὶ ταῦτα τὰ γενόμενα, εὐπρεπῶς ἔστησαν οἱ ἱερεῖς καὶ 11 οἱ Λευῖται, ἔχοντες τὰ ἄζυμα κατὰ τὰς φυλὰς καὶ κατὰ τὰς μεριдарχίας τῶν πατέρων ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ λαοῦ, προσενεγκύν τῷ Κυρίῳ κατὰ τὰ γεγραμμένα ἐν βιβλίῳ Μωυσῆ· 12 καὶ οὕτως τὸ πρῶτόν. Καὶ ὥπτησαν τὸ πάσχα πυρὶ ὡς καθήκει, καὶ τὰς θυσίας ἤψησαν ἐν τοῖς χαλκείοις καὶ λέβησι 13 μετ' εὐωδίας, καὶ ἀπήνεγκαν πᾶσι τοῖς ἐκ τοῦ λαοῦ· μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα ἡτοίμασαν ἑαυτοῖς τε καὶ τοῖς ἱερέυσιν ἀδελφοῖς 14 αὐτῶν υἱοῖς Ἀαρών· οἱ γὰρ ἱερεῖς ἀνέφερον τὰ στέατα ἕως ἁωρίας· καὶ οἱ Λευῖται ἡτοίμασαν ἑαυτοῖς καὶ τοῖς ἱερέυσιν 15 ἀδελφοῖς αὐτῶν υἱοῖς Ἀαρών. Καὶ οἱ ἱεροψάλται υἱοὶ

AND Josias held the feast of the passover in Jerusalem unto his Lord, and offered the passover the fourteenth day of the first month; ² having set the priests according to their daily courses, being arrayed in long garments, in the temple of the Lord.

³ And he spake unto the Levites, the holy ministers of Israel, that they should hallow themselves unto the Lord, to set the holy ark of the Lord in the house that king Solomon the son of David had built: ⁴ and said, Ye shall no more bear the ark upon your shoulders: now therefore serve the Lord your God, and minister unto his people Israel, and prepare you after your families and kindreds, ⁵ according as David the king of Israel prescribed, and according to the magnificence of Solomon his son: and standing in the temple according to the several dignity of the families of you the Levites, who minister in the presence of your brethren the children of Israel, ⁶ offer the passover in order, and make ready the sacrifices for your brethren, and keep the passover according to the commandment of the Lord, which was given unto Moses.

⁷ And unto the people that was found there Josias gave thirty thousand lambs and kids, and three thousand calves: these things were given of the king's allowance, according as he promised, to the people, to the priests and to the Levites. ⁸ And Helkias, Zacharias, and Syelus, the governors of the temple, gave to the priests for the passover two thousand and six hundred sheep, and three hundred calves. ⁹ And Jeconias, and Samaias, and Nathanael his brother, and Assabias, and Ochiel, and Joram, captains over thousands, gave to the Levites for the passover five thousand sheep, and seven hundred calves.

¹⁰ And when these things were done, the priests and Levites, having the unleavened bread, stood in very comely order according to the kindreds, ¹¹ and according to the several dignities of the fathers, before the people, to offer to the Lord, as it is written in the book of Moses: and thus *did they* in the morning. ¹² And they roasted the passover with fire, as appertaineth: as for the sacrifices, they sod them in brass pots and pans with a good savour, ¹³ and set them before all the people: and afterward they prepared for themselves, and for the priests their brethren, the sons of Aaron. ¹⁴ For the priests offered the fat until night: and the Levites prepared for themselves, and the priests their brethren, the sons of Aaron. ¹⁵ The holy singers also, the sons of

Asaph, were in their order, according to the appointment of David, to wit, Asaph, Zacharias, and Jeduthun, who was of the king's retinue. ¹⁶ Moreover the porters were at every gate; it was not lawful for any to go from his ordinary service: for their brethren the Levites prepared for them. ¹⁷ Thus were the things that belonged to the sacrifices of the Lord accomplished in that day, that they might hold the passover, ¹⁸ and offer sacrifices upon the altar of the Lord, according to the commandment of king Josias.

¹⁹ So the children of Israel which were present held the passover at that time, and the feast of sweet bread seven days. ²⁰ And such a passover was not kept in Israel since the time of the prophet Samuel. ²¹ Yea, all the kings of Israel held not such a passover as Josias, and the priests, and the Levites, and the Jews, held with all Israel that were found dwelling at Jerusalem. ²² In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josias was this passover kept.

²³ And the works of Josias were upright before his Lord with an heart full of godliness. ²⁴ As for the things that came to pass in his time, they were written in former times, concerning those that sinned, and did wickedly against the Lord above all people and kingdoms, and how they grieved him exceedingly, so that the words of the Lord rose up against Israel.

²⁵ Now after all these acts of Josias it came to pass that Pharaoh the king of Egypt came to raise war at Carcamys upon Euphrates: and Josias went out against him. ²⁶ But the king of Egypt sent to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, O king of Judea? ²⁷ I am not sent out from the Lord God against thee; for my war is upon Euphrates: and now the Lord is with me, yea the Lord is with me hastening me forward: depart from me, and be not against the Lord.

²⁸ Howbeit Josias did not turn back his chariot from him, but undertook to fight with him, not regarding the words of the prophet Jeremy spoken by the mouth of the Lord: ²⁹ but joined battle with him in the plain of Mageddo, and the princes came against king Josias. ³⁰ Then said the king unto his servants, Carry me away out of the battle; for I am very weak. And immediately his servants took him away out of the battle. ³¹ Then gat he up upon his second chariot, and being brought back to Jerusalem died, and was buried in his father's sepulchre. ³² And in all Jewry they mourned for Josias, yea, Jeremy the prophet lamented for Josias, and the chief men with the women made lamentation for him unto this day: and this was given out for an ordinance to be done continually in all the nation of Israel.

³³ These things are written in the book of the stories of the kings of Judah, and every one of the acts that Josias did, and his glory, and his understanding in the law of the Lord; and the things that he had done before, and the things now recited, are reported in the book of the kings of Israel and Judea.

³⁴ And the people took Joachaz the son of Josias, and made him king instead of Josias his father when he was twenty and three

Ἀσὰφ ἦσαν ἐπὶ τῆς τάξεως αὐτῶν, κατὰ τὰ ὑπὸ Δαυὶδ τεταγμένα, καὶ Ἀσὰφ, καὶ Ζαχαρίας, καὶ Ἐδδινούς ὁ παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ οἱ θυρωροὶ ἐφ' ἐκάστου πυλῶνος· οὐκ ἔστι παραβῆναι ἕκαστον τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ἐφημερίαν· οἱ γὰρ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτῶν οἱ Λευῖται ἡτοίμασαν αὐτοῖς, καὶ συνετελέσθη τὰ τῆς θυσίας τοῦ Κυρίου ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἀχθῆναι τὸ πάσχα, καὶ προσ-
αχθῆναι τὰς θυσίας ἐπὶ τοῦ Κυρίου θυσιαστήριον, κατὰ τὴν ἐπιταγὴν τοῦ βασιλέως Ἰωσίου.

Καὶ ἡγάγosan οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ οἱ εὐρεθέντες ἐν τῷ καιρῷ τούτῳ τὸ πάσχα καὶ τὴν ἑορτὴν τῶν ἀζύμων ἡμέρας ἑπτὰ. Καὶ οὐκ ἦχθη τὸ πάσχα τοιοῦτον ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ ἀπὸ τῶν χρόνων Σαμουὴλ τοῦ προφήτου. Καὶ πάντες οἱ βασιλεῖς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ οὐκ ἡγάγosan πάσχα τοιοῦτον, οἷον ἡγαγεν Ἰωσίας, καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς, καὶ οἱ Λευῖται, καὶ οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, καὶ πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ ὁ εὐρεθείς ἐν τῇ κατοικήσει αὐτῶν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Ὁκτωκαιδεκάτῳ ἔτει βασιλεύοντος Ἰωσίου ἦχθη τὸ πάσχα τοῦτο.

Καὶ ὠρθώθη τὰ ἔργα Ἰωσίου ἐνώπιον τοῦ Κυρίου αὐτοῦ ἐν καρδίᾳ πλήρει εὐσεβείας. Καὶ τὰ κατ' αὐτὸν δὲ ἀναγέγραπται ἐν τοῖς ἔμπροσθεν χρόνοις, περὶ τῶν ἡμαρτηκότων καὶ ἡσεβηκότων εἰς τὸν Κύριον παρὰ πᾶν ἔθνος καὶ βασιλείαν, καὶ ἃ ἐλύπησαν αὐτὸν, ἔστι, καὶ οἱ λόγοι τοῦ Κυρίου ἀνέστησαν ἐπὶ Ἰσραὴλ.

Καὶ μετὰ πᾶσαν τὴν πράξιν ταύτην Ἰωσίου, συνέβη Φαραὼ βασιλέα Αἰγύπτου ἐλθόντα πόλεμον ἐγείρει ἐν Χαρκαμὺς ἐπὶ τοῦ Εὐφράτου· καὶ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς ἀπάντησιν αὐτῷ Ἰωσίας. Καὶ διεπέμψατο πρὸς αὐτὸν βασιλεὺς Αἰγύπτου, λέγων, τί ἐμοὶ καὶ σοὶ ἐστι, βασιλεῦ τῆς Ἰουδαίας; Οὐχὶ πρὸς σὲ ἐξαπέσταλμαι ὑπὸ Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ· ἐπὶ γὰρ τοῦ Εὐφράτου ὁ πόλεμός μου ἐστὶ· καὶ νῦν Κύριος μετ' ἐμοῦ ἐστι, καὶ Κύριος μετ' ἐμοῦ ἐπισπεύδων ἐστίν· ἀπόστηθι, καὶ μὴ ἐναντιοῦ τῷ Κυρίῳ.

Καὶ οὐκ ἀέστρεψεν ἑαυτὸν Ἰωσίας ἐπὶ τὸ ἄρμα αὐτοῦ, ἀλλὰ πολεμῆν αὐτὸν ἐπεχείρει, οὐ προσέχων ῥήμασιν Ἱερεμίου προφήτου ἐκ στόματος Κυρίου. Ἀλλὰ συνεστήσατο πρὸς αὐτὸν πόλεμον ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ Μαγεδδώ· καὶ κατέβησαν οἱ ἄρχοντες πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα Ἰωσίαν. Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῖς παισὶν ἑαυτοῦ, ἀποστήσατέ με ἀπὸ τῆς μάχης, ἡσθένησα γὰρ λίαν· καὶ εὐθὺς ἀπέστησαν αὐτὸν οἱ παῖδες αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῆς παρατάξεως. Καὶ ἀνέβη ἐπὶ τὸ ἄρμα τὸ δευτέριον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀποκατασταθεὶς εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, μετήλλαξε τὸν βίον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐτάφη ἐν τῷ πατρικῷ τάφῳ. Καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ἐπένθησαν τὸν Ἰωσίαν, καὶ ἐθρήνησεν Ἱερεμίας ὁ προφήτης ὑπὲρ Ἰωσίου, καὶ οἱ προκαθήμενοι σὺν γυναιξὶν ἐθρηνούσαν αὐτὸν ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης· καὶ ἐξεδόθη τοῦτο γίνεσθαι αἰεὶ εἰς ἅπαν τὸ γένος Ἰσραὴλ.

Ταῦτα δὲ ἀναγέγραπται ἐν τῇ βίβλῳ τῶν ἱστορουμένων περὶ τῶν βασιλέων τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ τὸ καθ' ἐν πραχθέν τῆς πράξεως Ἰωσίου, καὶ τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ, καὶ τῆς συνέσεως αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ νόμῳ Κυρίου· τὰ τε προπραχθέντα ὑπ' αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ νῦν, ἱστόρηται ἐν τῷ βιβλίῳ τῶν βασιλέων Ἰσραὴλ καὶ Ἰούδα.

Καὶ ἀναλαβόντες οἱ ἐκ τοῦ ἔθνους τὸν Ἰεχονίαν υἱὸν Ἰωσίου, ἀνέδειξαν βασιλέα ἀντὶ Ἰωσίου τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, ὄντα ἐτῶν

35 ἑκοσι τριῶν. Καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν ἐν Ἰσραὴλ καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ
 36 μῆνας τρεῖς· καὶ ἀπέστησεν αὐτὸν βασιλεὺς Αἰγύπτου τοῦ μὴ
 βασιλεύειν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἐζήμωσε τὸ ἔθνος ἀργυρίου
 ταλάντοις ἑκατὸν καὶ χρυσίου ταλάντῳ ἐνί.

37 Καὶ ἀνέδειξε βασιλεὺς Αἰγύπτου βασιλέα Ἰωακὶμ τὸν ἀδελ-
 38 φὸν αὐτοῦ βασιλέα τῆς Ἰουδαίας καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Καὶ ἔδωκεν
 Ἰωακὶμ τοὺς μεγιστᾶνας, Ζαράκην δὲ τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ συλ-
 39 λαβὼν ἀνήγαγεν ἐξ Αἰγύπτου. Ἐτῶν δὲ ἦν εἰκοσιπέντε
 Ἰωακὶμ ὅτε ἐβασίλευσε τῆς Ἰουδαίας καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ· καὶ
 40 ἐποίησε τὸ πονηρὸν ἐνώπιον Κυρίου. Μετ' αὐτὸν δὲ ἀνέβη
 Ναβουχοδονόσορ ὁ βασιλεὺς Βαβυλῶνος, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτὸν ἐν
 41 χαλκίῳ δεσμῷ, καὶ ἀπήγαγεν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα. Καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν
 ἱερῶν σκευῶν τοῦ Κυρίου λαβὼν Ναβουχοδονόσορ καὶ ἀπενέ-
 42 κας, ἀπηρεύσατο ἐν τῷ ναῷ αὐτοῦ ἐν Βαβυλῶνι. Τὰ δὲ ἱστο-
 ρηθέντα περὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ τῆς ἀκαθαρσίας αὐτοῦ καὶ δυσσεβείας,
 ἀναγράφονται ἐν τῇ βιβλῷ τῶν χρόνων τῶν βασιλέων.

43 Καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν ἀντ' αὐτοῦ Ἰωακὶμ ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ· ὅτε
 44 γὰρ ἀνεδείχθη, ἦν ἐτῶν ὀκτώ. Βασιλεύει δὲ μῆνας τρεῖς καὶ
 ἡμέρας δέκα ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἐποίησε τὸ πονηρὸν ἐναντι
 Κυρίου.

45 Καὶ μετ' ἐνιαυτὸν ἀποστείλας Ναβουχοδονόσορ μετήγαγεν
 46 αὐτὸν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα, ἅμα τοῖς ἱεροῖς σκεύεσι τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ
 ἀνέδειξε Σεδεκίαν βασιλέα τῆς Ἰουδαίας καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ὄντα
 47 ἐτῶν εἴκοσι ἐνός· βασιλεύει δὲ ἔτη ἑνδεκα, καὶ ἐποίησε τὸ
 πονηρὸν ἐνώπιον Κυρίου, καὶ οὐκ ἐνετράπη ἀπὸ τῶν ρηθέντων
 λόγων ὑπὸ Ἱερεμίου τοῦ προφήτου ἐκ στόματος τοῦ Κυρίου.
 48 Καὶ ὀρκισθεὶς ἀπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως Ναβουχοδονόσορ τῷ ὀνόματι
 Κυρίου, ἐπιørκήσας ἀπέστη· καὶ σκληρύνας αὐτοῦ τὸν τράχηλον
 καὶ τὴν καρδίαν αὐτοῦ, παρέβη τὰ νόμιμα Κυρίου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ.
 49 Καὶ οἱ ἡγούμενοι δὲ τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ τῶν ἱερέων πολλὰ ἡσέβησαν
 καὶ ὑπὲρ πάσας τὰς ἀκαθαρσίας πάντων τῶν ἐθνῶν, καὶ ἐμίαναν
 τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Κυρίου τὸ ἀγιαζόμενον ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ.

50 Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πατέρων αὐτῶν διὰ τοῦ ἀγγέλου
 αὐτοῦ μετακαλέσαι αὐτοὺς, καθότι ἐφείδετο αὐτῶν καὶ τοῦ
 51 σκηνώματος αὐτοῦ. Αὐτοὶ δὲ ἐμυκτήρισαν ἐν τοῖς ἀγγέλοις
 αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἡ ἡμέρα ἐλάλησε Κύριος, ἦσαν ἐκπαίζοντες τοὺς
 52 προφῆτας αὐτοῦ, ἕως οὗ θυμῶντα αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τῷ ἔθνει αὐτοῦ
 διὰ τὰ δυσσεβήματα, προστάξαι ἀναβιβάσαι ἐπ' αὐτοὺς τοὺς
 53 βασιλεῖς τῶν Χαλδαίων. Οὗτοι ἀπέκτειναν τοὺς νεανίσκους
 αὐτῶν ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ, περικύκλῳ τοῦ ἁγίου αὐτῶν ἱεροῦ· καὶ οὐκ
 ἐφείσαντο νεανίσκου καὶ παρθένου, καὶ πρεσβύτου καὶ νεωτέρου,
 54 ἀλλὰ πάντας παρέδωκαν εἰς τὰς χεῖρας αὐτῶν. Καὶ πάντα τὰ
 ἱερὰ σκεύη τοῦ Κυρίου τὰ μεγάλα καὶ τὰ μικρὰ, καὶ τὰς κιβω-
 τοὺς τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ τὰς βασιλικὰς ἀποθήκας ἀναλαβόντες
 55 ἀπήνεγκαν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα. Καὶ ἐνεπύρισαν τὸν οἶκον τοῦ
 Κυρίου, καὶ ἔλυσαν τὰ τεῖχη Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ τοὺς πύργους
 56 αὐτῆς ἐνεπύρισαν ἐν πυρὶ, καὶ συνετέλεσαν πάντα τὰ ἐνδοξα
 αὐτῆς ἀχρεῖῶσαι, καὶ τοὺς ἐπιλοίπους ἀπήγαγε μετὰ ῥομφαίας
 57 εἰς Βαβυλῶνα. Καὶ ἦσαν παῖδες αὐτῷ καὶ τοῖς υἱοῖς αὐτοῦ,

years old. ³⁵ And he reigned in Judea and in Jerusalem three months: and then the king of Egypt deposed him from reigning in Jerusalem. ³⁶ And he set a tax upon the land of an hundred talents of silver and one talent of gold.

³⁷ The king of Egypt also made king Joacim his brother king of Judea and Jerusalem. ³⁸ And he bound Joacim and the nobles: but Zaraces his brother he apprehended, and brought him out of Egypt. ³⁹ Five and twenty years old was Joacim when he was made king in the land of Judea and Jerusalem; and he did evil before the Lord. ⁴⁰ Wherefore against him Nabuchodonosor the king of Babylon came up, and bound him with a chain of brass, and carried him into Babylon. ⁴¹ Nabuchodonosor also took of the holy vessels of the Lord, and carried them away, and set them in his own temple at Babylon. ⁴² But those things that are recorded of him, and of his uncleanness and impiety, are written in the chronicles of the kings.

⁴³ And Joacim his son reigned in his stead: he was made king being eighteen years old; ⁴⁴ and reigned but three months and ten days in Jerusalem; and did evil before the Lord.

⁴⁵ So after a year Nabuchodonosor sent and caused him to be brought into Babylon with the holy vessels of the Lord. ⁴⁶ And made Sedecias king of Judea and Jerusalem, when he was one and twenty years old; and he reigned eleven years: ⁴⁷ and he did evil also in the sight of the Lord, and cared not for the words that were spoken unto him by the prophet Jeremy from the mouth of the Lord. ⁴⁸ And after that king Nabuchodonosor had made him to swear by the name of the Lord, he forswore himself, and rebelled; and hardening his neck, and his heart, he transgressed the laws of the Lord God of Israel. ⁴⁹ The governors also of the people and of the priests did many things against the laws, and passed all the pollutions of all nations, and defiled the temple of the Lord, which was sanctified in Jerusalem.

⁵⁰ Nevertheless the God of their fathers sent by his messenger to call them back, because he spared them and his tabernacle also. ⁵¹ But they had his messengers in derision; and, in the day that the Lord spake unto them, they made a sport of his prophets: ⁵² so far forth, that he, being wroth with his people for their great ungodliness, commanded the kings of the Chaldees to come up against them; ⁵³ who slew their young men with the sword, yea, even within the compass of their holy temple, and spared neither young man nor maid, old man nor child, among them; for he delivered all into their hands. ⁵⁴ And they took all the holy vessels of the Lord, both great and small, with the vessels of the ark of God, and the king's treasures, and carried them away into Babylon. ⁵⁵ As for the house of the Lord, they burnt it, and brake down the walls of Jerusalem, and set fire upon her towers: ⁵⁶ and as for her glorious things, they never ceased till they had consumed and brought them all to nought; and the people that were not slain with the sword he carried into Babylon: ⁵⁷ who became servants to

him and his children, till the Persians reigned, to fulfil the word of the Lord spoken by the mouth of Jeremy: ⁵³ until the land had enjoyed her sabbaths, the whole time of her desolation shall she rest, until the full term of seventy years.

In the first year of Cyrus king of the Persians, that the word of the Lord might be accomplished, that he had promised by the mouth of Jeremy; ² the Lord raised up the spirit of Cyrus the king of the Persians, and he made proclamation through all his kingdom, and also by writing, ³ saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of the Persians; The Lord of Israel, the most high Lord, hath made me king of the whole world, ⁴ and commanded me to build him an house at Jerusalem in Jewry.

⁵ If therefore there be any of you that are of his people, let his Lord be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem that is in Judea, and build the house of the Lord of Israel: for he is the Lord that dwelleth in Jerusalem. ⁶ Whosoever then dwell in the places about, let them help him, those, I say, that are his neighbours, with gold, and with silver, ⁷ with gifts, with horses, and with cattle, and other things, which have been set forth by vow, for the temple of the Lord at Jerusalem.

⁸ Then the chief of the families of Judea and of the tribe of Benjamin stood up; the priests also, and the Levites, and all they whose mind the Lord had moved to go up, and to build an house for the Lord at Jerusalem, ⁹ and they that dwelt round about them, and helped them in all things with silver and gold, with horses and cattle, and with very many free gifts of a great number whose minds were stirred up thereto. ¹⁰ King Cyrus also brought forth the holy vessels which Nabuchodonosor had carried away from Jerusalem, and had set up in his temple of idols.

¹¹ Now when Cyrus king of the Persians had brought them forth, he delivered them to Mithridates his treasurer: ¹² and by him they were delivered to Sanabassar the governor of Judea. ¹³ And this was the number of them; A thousand golden cups, and a thousand of silver, censers of silver twenty-nine, vials of gold thirty, and of silver two thousand four hundred and ten, and a thousand other vessels. ¹⁴ So all the vessels of gold and of silver, which were carried away, were five thousand four hundred threescore and nine. ¹⁵ These were brought back by Sanabassar, together with them of the captivity, from Babylon to Jerusalem.

¹⁶ But in the time of Artaxerxes king of the Persians Belemus, and Mithridates, and Tabellius, and Rathumus, and Beeltethmus, and Samellius the secretary, with the rest that were in commission with them, dwelling in Samaria and other places, wrote unto him against them that dwelt in Judea and Jerusalem this letter following; ¹⁷ To king Artaxerxes our lord, Thy servants, Rathumus the storywriter, and Samellius the scribe, and the rest of their council, and the judges that are in Celosyria and Phenice. ¹⁸ Be it now known to the lord the king, that the Jews that are come up from you to us, being come into Jerusalem, that

μέχρις οὗ βασιλεῦσαι Πέρσας, εἰς ἀναπλήρωσιν ῥήματος τοῦ Κυρίου ἐν στόματι Ἱερεμίου· ἕως τοῦ εὐδοκῆσαι τὴν γῆν τὰ 58 σάββατα αὐτῆς, πάντα τὸν χρόνον τῆς ἐρημώσεως αὐτῆς, σαββατιεῖ εἰς συμπλήρωσιν ἑτῶν ἑβδομήκοντα.

Βασιλεόντος Κύρου Περσῶν ἔτους πρώτου, εἰς συντέλειαν 2 ῥήματος Κυρίου ἐν στόματι Ἱερεμίου, ἤγειρε Κύριος τὸ πνεῦμα 2 Κύρου βασιλέως Περσῶν, καὶ ἐκήρυξεν ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ βασιλείᾳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἅμα διὰ γραπτῶν, λέγων, τάδε λέγει ὁ βασιλεὺς 3 Περσῶν Κύρος, ἐμὲ ἀνέδειξε βασιλέα τῆς οἰκουμένης ὁ Κύριος τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, Κύριος ὁ ὑψιστος. Καὶ ἐσήμηνέ μοι 4 οἰκοδομῆσαι αὐτῷ οἶκον ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, τῇ ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ.

Εἴ τις ἐστὶν οὖν ὑμῶν ἐκ τοῦ ἔθνους αὐτοῦ, ἔστω ὁ Κύριος 5 αὐτοῦ μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀναβὰς εἰς τὴν Ἱερουσαλὴμ τὴν ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, οἰκοδομείτω τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Κυρίου τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ· οὗτος ὁ Κύριος, ὁ κατασκηνώσας ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Ὅσοι οὖν κατὰ 6 τοὺς τόπους οἰκοῦσι, βοηθείτωσαν αὐτῷ οἱ ἐν τῷ τόπῳ αὐτοῦ, ἐν χρυσίῳ καὶ ἐν ἀργυρίῳ, ἐν δόσεσι, μεθ' ἵππων καὶ κτηνῶν, σὺν 7 τοῖς ἄλλοις τοῖς κατ' εὐχὰς προστεθειμένοις εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Κυρίου τὸ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ.

Καὶ καταστήσαντες οἱ ἀρχίφυλοι τῶν πατριῶν τῆς Ἰούδα 8 καὶ Βενιαμὶν φυλῆς, καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς καὶ οἱ Λευῖται, καὶ πάντων ὧν ἤγειρε Κύριος τὸ πνεῦμα, ἀναβῆναι οἰκοδομῆσαι οἶκον τῷ Κυρίῳ τὸν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ· καὶ οἱ περικύκλω αὐτῶν ἐβοή- 9 θησαν ἐν πᾶσιν, ἐν ἀργυρίῳ καὶ χρυσίῳ, ἵπποις, κτήνεσι, καὶ εὐχαῖς ὡς πλείοταις πολλῶν, ὧν ὁ νοὺς ἡγέρθη. Καὶ ὁ βασι- 10 λεὺς Κύρος ἐξήνεγκε τὰ ἱερὰ σκεύη τοῦ Κυρίου, ἃ μετήνεγκε Ναβουχοδονόσορ ἐξ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἀπηρέισατο αὐτὰ ἐν τῷ εἰδωλείῳ αὐτοῦ.

Ἐξενέγκας δὲ αὐτὰ Κύρος ὁ βασιλεὺς Περσῶν παρέδωκεν 11 αὐτὰ Μιθραδάτῃ τῷ ἑαυτοῦ γαζοφύλακι. Διὰ δὲ τούτου παρε- 12 δόθησαν Σαμανασάρῳ προστάτῃ τῆς Ἰουδαίας. Ὁ δὲ τούτων 13 ἀριθμὸς ἦν, σπονδεῖα χρυσᾷ χίλια, σπονδεῖα ἀργυρᾷ χίλια, θύσκαί ἀργυραὶ εἰκοσιεννέα, φιάλαι χρυσαὶ τριάκοντα, ἀργυραὶ δισχίλια τετρακόσκιαι δέκα, καὶ ἄλλα σκεύη χίλια. Τὰ δὲ 14 πάντα σκεύη ἐκομίσθη χρυσᾷ καὶ ἀργυρᾷ πεντακισχίλια τετρακόσκιαι ἐξηκονταεννέα. Ἀνηνέχθη δὲ ὑπὸ Σαμανασά- 15 ρου ἅμα τοῖς ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας ἐκ Βαβυλῶνος εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ.

Ἐν δὲ τοῖς ἐπὶ Ἀρταξέρξου τῶν Περσῶν βασιλέως χρόνοις 16 κατέγραψαν αὐτῷ κατὰ τῶν κατοικούντων ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, Βήλεμος, καὶ Μιθραδάτης, καὶ Ταβέλλιος, καὶ Ῥάθυμος, καὶ Βεέλτεθμος, καὶ Σαμέλλιος ὁ γραμματεὺς, καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ οἱ τούτοις συντασσόμενοι, οἰκούντες δὲ ἐν Σαμαρείᾳ καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις τόποις, τὴν ὑπογεγραμμένην ἐπιστολὴν· Βασιλεῖ Ἀρταξέρξῃ κυρίῳ οἱ παῖδές σου, Ῥάθυμος ὁ τὰ προσ- 17 πίπτοντα, καὶ Σαμέλλιος ὁ γραμματεὺς, καὶ οἱ ἐπίλοιποι τῆς βουλῆς αὐτῶν, καὶ κριταὶ οἱ ἐν κοίλῃ Συρία καὶ Φοινίκη. Καὶ νῦν γνωστὸν ἔστω τῷ κυρίῳ βασιλεῖ, ὅτι οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἀνα- 18 βάντες παρ' ὑμῶν πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἐλθόντες εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, τὴν

- πόλιν τὴν ἀποστάτιν καὶ πονηρὰν, οἰκοδομοῦσι τὰς τε ἀγορὰς αὐτῆς, καὶ τὰ τείχη θεραπεύουσι, καὶ ναὸν ὑποβάλλονται.
- 19 Ἐὰν οὖν ἡ πόλις αὕτη οἰκοδομηθῇ, καὶ τὰ τείχη συντελεσθῇ, φορολογίαν οὐ μὴ ὑπομείνωσι δοῦναι, ἀλλὰ καὶ βασιλεῦσιν ἀντιστήσονται.
- 20 Καὶ ἐπεὶ ἐνεργεῖται τὰ κατὰ τὸν ναὸν, καλῶς ἔχειν ὑπολαμ-
21 βάνομεν μὴ ὑπεριδεῖν τὸ τοιοῦτο, ἀλλὰ προσφωνῆσαι τῷ κυρίῳ βασιλεῖ, ὅπως ἂν φαίνηταί σοι, ἐπισκεφθῇ ἐν τοῖς ἀπὸ τῶν
22 πατέρων σου βιβλίοις. Καὶ εὐρήσεις ἐν τοῖς ὑπομνηματισ-
μοῖς γεγραμμένα περὶ τούτων, καὶ γνώσῃ ὅτι ἡ πόλις ἐκείνη
23 ἦν ἀποστάτις, καὶ βασιλεῖς καὶ πόλεις ἐνοχλοῦσα, καὶ οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἀποστάται καὶ πολιορκίας συνιστάμενοι ἐν αὐτῇ ἔτι
24 ἐξ αἰῶνος, δι' ἣν αἰτίαν καὶ ἡ πόλις αὕτη ἡρημώθη. Νῦν οὖν ὑποδεικνύομέν σοι, κύριε βασιλεῦ, ὅτι ἐὰν ἡ πόλις αὕτη οἰκοδο-
μηθῇ, καὶ τὰ ταύτης τείχη ἀνασταθῇ, κάθοδος οὐκ ἔτι σοι ἔσται εἰς κοίλην Συρίαν καὶ Φοινίκην.
- 25 Τότε ἀντέγραψεν ὁ βασιλεὺς Ῥαθύμῳ τῷ γράφοντι τὰ προσπίπτοντα, καὶ Βεελτέθμῳ, καὶ Σαμελλίῳ γραμματεῖ, καὶ τοῖς λοιποῖς τοῖς συντασσομένοις καὶ οἰκοῦσιν ἐν τῇ Σαμαρείᾳ,
26 καὶ Συρίᾳ, καὶ Φοινίκῃ, τὰ ὑπογεγραμμένα. Ἀνέγνων τὴν ἐπιστολὴν ἣν πεπόμφατε πρὸς μέ· ἐπέταξα οὖν ἐπισκέψασθαι καὶ εὐρέθῃ ὅτι ἡ πόλις ἐκείνη ἔστιν ἐξ αἰῶνος βασιλεῦσιν
27 ἀντιπαρατάσσουσα, καὶ οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἀποστάσεις καὶ πολέμους ἐν αὐτῇ συντελοῦντες, καὶ βασιλεῖς ἰσχυροὶ καὶ σκληροὶ ἦσαν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ κυριεύοντες καὶ φορολογοῦντες κοίλην Συρίαν
28 καὶ Φοινίκην. Νῦν οὖν ἐπέταξα ἀποκωλῦσαι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους ἐκείνους τοῦ οἰκοδομῆσαι τὴν πόλιν, καὶ προνοηθῆναι ὅπως
29 μὴδὲν παρὰ ταῦτα γένηται. Καὶ μὴ προβῇ ἐπὶ πλεῖον τὰ τῆς κακίας εἰς τὸ βασιλεῖς ἐνοχλῆσαι.
- 30 Τότε ἀναγνωσθέντων τῶν παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως Ἀρταξέρξου γραφέντων, Ῥάθυμος, καὶ Σαμελλίος ὁ γραμματεὺς, καὶ οἱ τούτοις συντασσόμενοι, ἀναξεύξαντες εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατὰ σπουδὴν μεθ' ἵππου καὶ ὄχλου παρατάξεως, ἤρξαντο κωλύειν τοὺς οἰκοδομοῦντας, καὶ ἤργει ἡ οἰκοδομὴ τοῦ ἱεροῦ τοῦ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ μέχρι τοῦ δευτέρου ἔτους τῆς βασιλείας Δαρείου τοῦ Περσῶν βασιλέως.
- 3 Καὶ βασιλεὺς Δαρείος ἐποίησε δοχὴν μεγάλην πᾶσι τοῖς ὑπ' αὐτὸν, καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς οἰκογενέσιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς
2 μεγιστάσι τῆς Μηδίας καὶ τῆς Περσίδος, καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς σατράπαις καὶ στρατηγοῖς καὶ τοπάρχαις τοῖς ὑπ' αὐτὸν, ἀπὸ τῆς Ἰνδικῆς μέχρις Αἰθιοπίας, ἐν ταῖς ἑκατὸν εἰκοσιεπτὰ σατρα-
3 πείαις. Καὶ ἐφάγοσαν καὶ ἐπίοσαν, καὶ ἐμπλησθέντες ἀνέλυσαν· ὁ δὲ Δαρείος ὁ βασιλεὺς ἀνέλυσεν εἰς τὸν κοιτῶνα ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ ἐκοιμήθη, καὶ ἔξυπνος ἐγένετο.
- 4 Τότε οἱ τρεῖς νεανίσκοι οἱ σωματοφύλακες οἱ φυλάσσοντες
5 τὸ σῶμα τοῦ βασιλέως, εἶπαν ἕτερος πρὸς τὸν ἕτερον, εἰπώμεν ἕκαστος ἡμῶν ἓνα λόγον, ὃς ὑπερισχύσει· καὶ οὐ ἔαν φανῇ τὸ ῥῆμα αὐτοῦ σοφώτερον τοῦ ἑτέρου, δώσει αὐτῷ Δαρείος ὁ βασι-
6 λεὺς δωρεὰς μεγάλας, καὶ ἐπινίκια μέγαλα, καὶ πορφύραν περιβαλέσθαι, καὶ ἐν χρυσώμασι πίνειν, καὶ ἐπὶ χρυσῷ καθέδρειν, καὶ ἄρμα χρυσοχάλινον, καὶ κίδارين βυσσίνην,
7 καὶ μανιάκην περὶ τὸν τράχηλον, καὶ δεύτερος καθιέται

rebellious and wicked city, do build the marketplaces, and repair the walls of it, and do lay the foundation of the temple.

19 Now if this city and the walls thereof be made up again, they will not only refuse to give tribute, but also rebel against kings.

20 And forasmuch as the things pertaining to the temple are now in hand, we think it meet not to neglect such a matter, 21 but to speak unto our lord the king, to the intent that, if it be thy pleasure, it may be sought out in the books of thy fathers: 22 and thou shalt find in the chronicles what is written concerning these things, and shalt understand that that city was rebellious, troubling both kings and cities: 23 and that the Jews were rebellious, and raised always wars therein; for the which cause even this city was made desolate. 24 Wherefore now we do declare unto thee, O lord the king, that if this city be built again, and the walls thereof set up anew, thou shalt from henceforth have no passage into Celosyria and Phenice.

25 Then the king wrote back again to Rathumus the storywriter, to Beeltethmus, to Semellius the scribe, and to the rest that were in commission, and dwellers in Samaria and Syria and Phenice, after this manner; 26 I have read the epistle which ye have sent unto me: therefore I commanded to make diligent search, and it hath been found that that city was from the beginning practising against kings; 27 and the men therein were given to rebellion and war: and that mighty kings and fierce were in Jerusalem, who reigned and exacted tributes in Celosyria and Phenice. 28 Now therefore I have commanded to hinder those men from building the city, and heed to be taken that there be no more done in it; 29 and that those wicked workers proceed no further to the annoyance of kings.

30 Then king Artaxerxes his letters being read, Rathumus, and Semellius the scribe, and the rest that were in commission with them, removing in haste toward Jerusalem with a troop of horsemen and a multitude of people in battle array, began to hinder the builders; and the building of the temple in Jerusalem ceased until the second year of the reign of Darius king of the Persians.

Now when Darius reigned, he made a great feast unto all his subjects, and unto all his household, and unto all the princes of Media and Persia, 2 and to all the governors and captains and lieutenants that were under him, from India unto Ethiopia, in the hundred twenty and seven provinces. 3 And when they had eaten and drunken, and being satisfied were gone home, then Darius the king went into his bedchamber, and slept, and soon after awaked.

4 Then three young men, that were of the guard that kept the king's body, spake one to another; 5 Let every one of us speak a sentence: he that shall overcome, and whose sentence shall seem wiser than the others, unto him shall the king Darius give great gifts, and great things in token of victory: 6 as to be clothed in purple, to drink in gold, and to sleep upon gold, and a chariot with bridles of gold, and an headtire of fine linen, and a chain about his neck: 7 and he

shall sit next to Darius because of his wisdom, and shall be called Darius's cousin.

⁸ And then every one wrote his sentence, sealed it, and laid it under the pillow of king Darius; ⁹ and said that, when the king is risen, *some* will give him the writing; and of whose side the king and the three princes of Persia shall judge that his sentence is the wisest, to him shall the victory be given, as was appointed. ¹⁰ The first wrote, Wine is the strongest. ¹¹ The second wrote, The king is strongest. ¹² The third wrote, Women are strongest: but above all things Truth beareth away the victory.

¹³ Now when the king was risen up, they took their writings, and delivered *them* unto him, and *so* he read *them*: ¹⁴ and sending forth he called all the princes of Persia and Media, and the governors, and the captains, and the lieutenants, and the chief officers; ¹⁵ and sat him down in the royal seat of judgment; and the writing was read before them. ¹⁶ And he said, Call the young men, and they shall declare their own sentences. So they were called, and came in. ¹⁷ And he said unto them, Declare unto us your mind concerning the writings.

Then began the first, who had spoken of the strength of wine; ¹⁸ and he said thus, O ye men, how exceeding strong is wine! it causeth all men to err that drink it: ¹⁹ it maketh the mind of the king and of the fatherless child to be all one; of the bondman and of the freeman, of the poor man and of the rich: ²⁰ it turneth also every thought into jollity and mirth, so that a man remembereth neither sorrow nor debt: ²¹ and it maketh every heart rich, so that a man remembereth neither king nor governor; and it maketh to speak all things by talents: ²² and when they are in their cups, they forget their love both to friends and brethren, and a little after draw out swords: ²³ but when they are from the wine, they remember not what they have done. ²⁴ O ye men, is not wine the strongest, that enforceth to do thus? And when he had so spoken, he held his peace.

Then the second, that had spoken of the strength of the king, began to say, ²⁵ O ye men, do not men excel in strength, that bear rule over sea and land, and all things in them? ²⁶ But yet the king is more mighty: for he is lord of all these things, and hath dominion over them; and whatsoever he commandeth them they do. ²⁷ If he bid them make war the one against the other, they do it: if he send them out against the enemies, they go, and break down mountains, walls, and towers. ²⁸ They slay and are slain, and transgress not the king's commandment: if they get the victory, they bring all to the king, as well the spoil, as all things else.

²⁹ Likewise for those that are no soldiers, and have not to do with wars, but use husbandry, when they have reaped again that which they had sown, they bring it to the king, and compel one another to pay tribute unto the king. ³⁰ And yet he is but one man: if he command to kill, they kill; if he command to spare, they spare; ³¹ if he command to smite, they smite; if he command to make desolate, they make desolate; if he

Δαρείου διὰ τὴν σοφίαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ συγγενῆς Δαρείου κληθήσεται.

Καὶ τότε γράψαντες ἕκαστος τὸν ἑαυτοῦ λόγον, ἐσφαγίσαντο ⁸ καὶ ἔθηκαν ὑπὸ τὸ προσκεφάλαιον Δαρείου τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ ⁹ εἶπαν, ὅταν ἐγερθῇ ὁ βασιλεὺς, δώσουσιν αὐτῷ τὸ γράμμα, καὶ ὃν ἂν κρίνῃ ὁ βασιλεὺς καὶ οἱ τρεῖς μεγιστάνες τῆς Περσίδος, ὅτι οὗ ὁ λόγος αὐτοῦ σοφώτερος, αὐτῷ δοθήσεται τὸ νίκος καθὼς γέγραπται. Ὁ εἰς ἔγραψεν, ὑπερισχύει ὁ οἶνος. ¹⁰ Ὁ ἕτερος ἔγραψεν, ὑπερισχύει ὁ βασιλεὺς. Ὁ τρίτος ^{11, 12} ἔγραψεν, ὑπερισχύουσιν αἱ γυναῖκες, ὑπὲρ δὲ πάντα νικᾷ ἡ ἀλήθεια.

Καὶ ὅτε ἐξηγέρθη ὁ βασιλεὺς, λαβόντες τὸ γράμμα ἔδωκαν ¹³ αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀνέγνω. Καὶ ἐξαποστείλας ἐκάλεσε πάντας τοὺς ¹⁴ μεγιστάνας τῆς Περσίδος καὶ τῆς Μηδείας, καὶ τοὺς σατράπας καὶ στρατηγούς, καὶ τοπάρχας καὶ ὑπάτους, καὶ ἐκάθισεν ἐν τῷ ¹⁵ χρηματιστηρίῳ, καὶ ἀνεγνώσθη τὸ γράμμα ἐνώπιον αὐτῶν. Καὶ εἶπε, καλέσατε τοὺς νεανίσκους, καὶ αὐτοὶ δηλώσουσι ¹⁶ τοὺς λόγους ἑαυτῶν· καὶ ἐκλήθησαν, καὶ εἰσῆλθουσιν. Καὶ ¹⁷ εἶπαν αὐτοῖς, ἀπαγγείλατε ἡμῖν περὶ τῶν γεγραμμένων.

Καὶ ἤρξατο ὁ πρῶτος ὁ εἶπας περὶ τῆς ἰσχύος τοῦ οἴνου, καὶ ἔφη οὕτως, ἄνδρες, πῶς ὑπερισχύει ὁ οἶνος; πάντας τοὺς ¹⁸ ἀνθρώπους τοὺς πίνοντας αὐτὸν πλανᾷ, τὴν διάνοιαν τοῦ τε ¹⁹ βασιλέως καὶ τοῦ ὀρφανοῦ ποιεῖ τὴν διάνοιαν μίαν, τὴν τε τοῦ οἰκέτου καὶ τὴν τοῦ ἐλευθέρου, τὴν τε τοῦ πένητος καὶ τὴν τοῦ πλουσίου· καὶ πᾶσαν διάνοιαν μεταστρέφει εἰς εὐωχίαν ²⁰ καὶ εὐφροσύνην, καὶ οὐ μέμνηται πᾶσαν λύπην καὶ πᾶν ὀφείλημα· καὶ πάσας καρδίας ποιεῖ πλουσίας, καὶ οὐ μέμνηται ²¹ βασιλεία οὐδὲ σατράπην· καὶ πάντα διὰ ταλάντων ποιεῖ λαλεῖν. Καὶ οὐ μέμνηται, ὅταν πίνωσι, φιλιάζειν φίλοις καὶ ἀδελφοῖς, ²² καὶ μετ' οὐ πολὺ σπῶνται τὰς μαχαίρας. Καὶ ὅταν ἀπὸ τοῦ ²³ οἴνου ἐγερθῶσιν, οὐ μέμνηται ἃ ἔπραξαν. Ὡς ἄνδρες, οὐχ ²⁴ ὑπερισχύει ὁ οἶνος, ὅτι οὕτως ἀναγκάζει ποιεῖν; καὶ ἐσίγησεν οὕτως εἶπας.

Καὶ ἤρξατο ὁ δεύτερος λαλεῖν, ὁ εἶπας περὶ τῆς ἰσχύος τοῦ ⁴ βασιλέως. Ὡς ἄνδρες, οὐχ ὑπερισχύουσιν οἱ ἄνθρωποι, τὴν ² γῆν καὶ τὴν θάλασσαν κατακρατοῦντες καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς; Ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς ὑπερισχύει, καὶ κυριεύει αὐτῶν καὶ δεσπόζει ³ αὐτῶν, καὶ πᾶν ὃ ἔαν εἶπῃ αὐτοῖς, ἐνακούουσιν. Ἐὰν εἶπῃ ⁴ αὐτοῖς ποιῆσαι πόλεμον ἕτερος πρὸς τὸν ἕτερον, ποιοῦσιν· ἔαν δὲ ἐξαποστείλῃ αὐτοὺς πρὸς τοὺς πολεμίους, βαδίζουσι καὶ κατεργάζονται τὰ ὄρη καὶ τὰ τεῖχη καὶ τοὺς πύργους, φονεύ- ⁵ ονσι καὶ φονεύονται, καὶ τὸν λόγον τοῦ βασιλέως οὐ παραβαίνουνσιν· ἔαν δὲ νικήσωσι, τῷ βασιλεῖ κομίζουσι πάντα, καὶ ἔαν προνομεύσωσι, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα πάντα.

Καὶ ὅσοι οὐ στρατεύονται οὐδὲ πολεμοῦσιν, ἀλλὰ γεωργοῦσι ⁶ τὴν γῆν, πάλιν ὅταν στείρωσι θερίσαντες ἀναφέρουσι τῷ βασιλεῖ· καὶ ἕτερος τὸν ἕτερον ἀναγκάζοντες, ἀναφέρουσι τοὺς φόρους τῷ βασιλεῖ. Καὶ αὐτὸς εἰς μόνος ἐστίν· ἔαν εἶπῃ ⁷ ἀποκτεῖναι, ἀποκτεννοῦσιν· ἔαν εἶπῃ ἀφείναι, ἀφίουσιν. Εἶπε ⁸ πατάξαι, τύπτουσιν· εἶπεν ἐρημῶσαι, ἐρημοῦσιν· εἶπεν οἰκο-

9 δομῆσαι, οἰκοδομοῦσιν· εἶπεν ἐκκόψαι, ἐκκόπτουσιν· εἶπε
10 φυτεῦσαι, φυτεύουσιν. Καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς αὐτοῦ καὶ αἱ δυνάμεις
αὐτοῦ ἐνακούουσι· πρὸς δὲ τούτοις αὐτὸς ἀνάκειται, ἐσθίει καὶ
11 πίνει καὶ καθεύδει, αὐτοὶ δὲ τηροῦσι κύκλῳ περὶ αὐτόν·
καὶ οὐ δύνανται ἕκαστος ἀπελθεῖν, καὶ ποιεῖν τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ,
12 οὐδὲ παρακούουσιν αὐτοῦ. Ὡς ἄνδρες, πῶς οὐχ ὑπερισχύει
ὁ βασιλεὺς, ὅτι οὕτως ἐπάκουστός ἐστι; καὶ ἐσίγησεν.

13 Ὁ δὲ τρίτος ὁ εἶπας περὶ τῶν γυναικῶν καὶ τῆς ἀληθείας,
14 οὗτός ἐστι Ζοροβάβελ, ἤρξατο λαλεῖν· Ἄνδρες, οὐ μέγας
ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ πολλοὶ οἱ ἄνθρωποι, καὶ ὁ οἶνος ἰσχύει; τίς
οὖν ὁ δεσπόζων αὐτῶν, ἢ τίς ὁ κυριεύων αὐτῶν; οὐχ αἱ γυναῖ-
15 κες; Αἱ γυναῖκες ἐγέννησαν τὸν βασιλέα καὶ πάντα τὸν λαόν
16 ὃς κυριεύει τῆς θαλάσσης καὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐγένοντο·
καὶ αὗται ἐξέθρεψαν αὐτοὺς τοὺς φυτεύσαντας τοὺς ἀμπελώνας
17 ἐξ ὧν ὁ οἶνος γίνεται. Καὶ αὗται ποιοῦσι τὰς στολὰς τῶν
ἀνθρώπων, καὶ αὗται ποιοῦσι δόξαν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις, καὶ οὐ
18 δύνανται οἱ ἄνθρωποι χωρὶς τῶν γυναικῶν εἶναι. Ἐὰν δὲ
συναγάγωσι χρυσίον καὶ ἀργύριον καὶ πᾶν πρᾶγμα ὥραϊον,
19 καὶ ἴδωσι γυναῖκα μίαν καλὴν τῷ εἶδει καὶ τῷ κάλλει, ταῦτα
πάντα ἀφέντες, εἰς αὐτὴν ἐκκέχρηναν, καὶ χάσκοντες τὸ στόμα
θεωροῦσιν αὐτήν, καὶ πάντες αὐτὴν αἰρετίζουσιν μᾶλλον ἢ τὸ
χρυσίον καὶ τὸ ἀργύριον καὶ πᾶν πρᾶγμα ὥραϊον.

20 Ἄνθρωπος τὸν ἑαυτοῦ πατέρα ἐγκαταλείπει ὃς ἐξέθρεψεν
αὐτόν, καὶ τὴν ἰδίαν χώραν, καὶ πρὸς τὴν ἰδίαν γυναῖκα κολλᾷ-
21 ται, καὶ μετὰ τῆς γυναικὸς ἀφίησι τὴν ψυχὴν, καὶ οὔτε τὸν
22 πατέρα μέμνηται, οὔτε τὴν μητέρα, οὔτε τὴν χώραν. Καὶ
ἐντεῦθεν δεῖ ὑμᾶς γινῶναι ὅτι αἱ γυναῖκες κυριεύουσιν ὑμῶν·
οὐχὶ πονεῖτε, καὶ μοχθεῖτε, καὶ πάντα ταῖς γυναῖξι δίδοτε, καὶ
23 φέρετε; Καὶ λαμβάνει ὁ ἄνθρωπος τὴν ῥομφαίαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ
ἐκπορεύεται ἐξοδεύειν καὶ ληστεύειν καὶ κλέπτειν, καὶ εἰς τὴν
24 θάλασσαν πλεῖν, καὶ ποταμούς, καὶ τὸν λέοντα θεωρεῖ, καὶ ἐν
σκοτίᾳ βαδίζει· καὶ ὅταν κλέψῃ καὶ ἀρπάσῃ καὶ λωποδυστήσῃ,
25 τῇ ἐρωμένῃ ἀποφέρει. Καὶ πλεῖον ἀγαπᾷ ἄνθρωπος τὴν ἰδίαν
26 γυναῖκα μᾶλλον ἢ τὸν πατέρα καὶ τὴν μητέρα. Καὶ πολλοὶ
ἀπενόηθησαν ταῖς ἰδίαις διανοίαις διὰ τὰς γυναῖκας, καὶ δοῦλοι
27 ἐγένοντο δι' αὐτάς· καὶ πολλοὶ ἀπώλοντο καὶ ἐσφάλησαν
καὶ ἡμάρτοσαν διὰ τὰς γυναῖκας.

28 Καὶ νῦν οὐ πιστεύετε μοι; οὐχὶ μέγας ὁ βασιλεὺς τῇ
ἐξουσίᾳ αὐτοῦ; οὐχὶ πᾶσαι αἱ χῶραι εὐλαβοῦνται ἄψασθαι
29 αὐτοῦ; Ἐθεώρουν αὐτόν, καὶ Ἀπάμην τὴν θυγατέρα Βαρτάκου
τοῦ θανμαστοῦ, τὴν παλλακὴν τοῦ βασιλέως, καθημένην ἐν
30 δεξιᾷ τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ ἀφαιροῦσαν τὸ διάδημα ἀπὸ τῆς
κεφαλῆς τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ ἐπιτιθοῦσαν ἑαυτῇ· καὶ ἐρράπιζε
31 τὸν βασιλέα τῇ ἀριστερᾷ. Καὶ πρὸς τούτοις ὁ βασιλεὺς
χάσκων τὸ στόμα ἐθεώρει αὐτήν· καὶ ἂν προσγελάσῃ αὐτῷ,
γελά· ἂν δὲ πικρανθῇ ἐπ' αὐτόν, κολακεύει αὐτήν, ὅπως
32 διαλλαγῇ αὐτῷ. Ὡς ἄνδρες, πῶς οὐχὶ ἰσχυραὶ αἱ γυναῖκες, ὅτι
οὕτως πράσσουσιν;

33 Καὶ τότε ὁ βασιλεὺς καὶ οἱ μεγιστᾶνες ἐβλεπον εἰς τὸν
34 ἕτερον· καὶ ἤρξατο λαλεῖν περὶ τῆς ἀληθείας· Ἄνδρες, οὐχὶ
ἰσχυραὶ αἱ γυναῖκες; μεγάλη ἡ γῆ, καὶ ὑψηλὸς ὁ οὐρανός, καὶ

command to build, they build; ⁹ if he com-
mand to cut down, they cut down; if he
command to plant, they plant. ¹⁰ So all his
people and his armies obey him: further-
more he lieth down, he eateth and drinketh,
and taketh his rest: ¹¹ and these keep watch
round about him, neither may any one
depart, and do his own business, neither
disobey they him in any thing. ¹² O ye
men, how should not the king be mightiest,
when in such sort he is obeyed? And he
held his tongue.

¹³ Then the third, who had spoken of
women, and of the truth, (this was Zoroba-
bel) began to speak. ¹⁴ O ye men, it is not
the great king, nor the multitude of men,
neither is it wine, that excelleth: who is it
then that ruleth them, or hath the lordship
over them? are they not women? ¹⁵ Wo-
men have borne the king and all the people
that bear rule by sea and land. ¹⁶ Even of
them came they: and they nourished them
up that planted the vineyards, from whence
the wine cometh. ¹⁷ These also make gar-
ments for men; these bring glory unto
men; and without women cannot men be.
¹⁸ Yea, and if men have gathered together
gold and silver, or any other goodly thing,
do they not love a woman which is comely
in favour and beauty? ¹⁹ And letting all
those things go, do they not gape, and even
with open mouth fix their eyes fast on her;
and have not all men more desire unto her
than unto silver or gold, or any goodly
thing whatsoever?

²⁰ A man leaveth his own father that
brought him up, and his own country, and
cleaveth unto his wife. ²¹ He sticketh not
to spend his life with his wife, and remem-
bereth neither father, nor mother, nor
country. ²² By this also ye must know that
women have dominion over you: do ye not
labour and toil, and give and bring all to
the woman? ²³ Yea, a man taketh his
sword, and goeth his way to rob and to
steal, to sail upon the sea and upon rivers;
²⁴ and looketh upon a lion, and goeth in
the darkness; and when he hath stolen,
spoiled, and robbed, he bringeth it to his
love. ²⁵ Wherefore a man loveth his wife
better than father or mother. ²⁶ Yea, many
there be that have run out of their wits for
women, and become servants for their sakes.
²⁷ Many also have perished, have erred, and
sinned, for women.

²⁸ And now do ye not believe me? is not the
king great in his power? do not all regions
fear to touch him? ²⁹ Yet did I see him and
Apame the king's concubine, the daughter
of the admirable Bartacus, sitting at the
right hand of the king, ³⁰ and taking the
crown from the king's head, and setting it
upon her own head; she also struck the king
with her left hand. ³¹ And yet for all this
the king gaped and gazed upon her with
open mouth: if she laughed upon him, he
laughed also: but if she took any displeasure
at him, the king was fain to flatter, that she
might be reconciled to him again. ³² O ye
men, how can it be but women should be
strong, seeing they do thus?

³³ Then the king and the princes looked
one upon another: so he began to speak of
the truth. ³⁴ O ye men, are not women
strong? great is the earth, high is the heaven,

swift is the sun in his course, for he compasseth the heavens round about, and fetcheth his course again to his own place in one day. ³⁵ Is he not great that maketh these things? therefore great is the truth, and stronger than all things. ³⁶ All the earth calleth upon the truth, and the heaven blesseth it: all works shake and tremble at it, and with it is no unrighteous thing. ³⁷ Wine is wicked, the king is wicked, women are wicked, all the children of men are wicked; and such are all their wicked works, and there is no truth in them; in their unrighteousness also they shall perish.

³⁸ As for the truth, it endureth, and is always strong: it liveth and conquereth for evermore. ³⁹ With her there is no accepting of persons or rewards: but she doeth the things that are just, and refraineth from all unjust and wicked things; and all men do well like of her works. ⁴⁰ Neither in her judgment is any unrighteousness; and she is the strength, kingdom, power, and majesty of all ages. Blessed be the God of truth.

⁴¹ And with that he held his peace. And all the people then shouted, and said, Great is Truth, and mighty above all things. ⁴² Then said the king unto him, Ask what thou wilt more than is appointed in the writings, and we will give it thee, because thou art found wisest; and thou shalt sit next me, and shalt be called my cousin. ⁴³ Then said he unto the king, Remember thy vow, which thou hast vowed to build Jerusalem, in the day when thou camest to thy kingdom, ⁴⁴ and to send away all the vessels that were taken away out of Jerusalem, which Cyrus set apart, when he vowed to destroy Babylon, and to send them again thither. ⁴⁵ Thou also hast vowed to build up the temple, which the Edomites burned when Judea was made desolate by the Chaldees. ⁴⁶ And now, O lord the king, this is that which I require, and which I desire of thee, and this is the princely liberality proceeding from thyself: I desire therefore that thou make good the vow, the performance whereof with thine own mouth thou hast vowed to the King of heaven.

⁴⁷ Then Darius the king stood up, and kissed him, and wrote letters for him unto all the treasurers and lieutenants and captains and governors, that they should safely convey on their way both him, and all those that go up with him to build Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ He wrote letters also unto the lieutenants that were in Celosyria and Phenice, and unto them in Libanus, that they should bring cedar wood from Libanus unto Jerusalem, and that they should build the city with him.

⁴⁹ Moreover he wrote for all the Jews that went out of his realm up into Jewry, concerning their freedom, that no officer, no ruler, no lieutenant, nor treasurer, should forcibly enter into their doors; ⁵⁰ and that all the country which they hold should be free without tribute; and that the Edomites should give over the villages of the Jews which then they held: ⁵¹ yea, that there should be yearly given twenty talents to the building of the temple, until the time that it were built; ⁵² and other ten talents yearly, to maintain the burnt offerings upon the

ταχὺς τῷ δρόμῳ ὁ ἥλιος, ὅτι στρέφεται ἐν τῷ κύκλῳ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, καὶ πάλιν ἀποτρέχει εἰς τὸν ἑαυτοῦ τόπον ἐν μιᾷ ἡμέρᾳ. Οὐχὶ μέγας ὅς ταῦτα ποιεῖ; καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια μεγάλη 35 καὶ ἰσχυροτέρα παρὰ πάντα. Πᾶσα ἡ γῆ τὴν ἀλήθειαν καλεῖ, 36 καὶ ὁ οὐρανὸς αὐτὴν εὐλογεῖ, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἔργα σείεται καὶ τρέμει, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι μετ' αὐτῆς ἄδικον οὐδέν. Ἄδικος ὁ οἶνος, 37 ἄδικος ὁ βασιλεὺς, ἄδικοι αἱ γυναῖκες, ἄδικοι πάντες οἱ υἱοὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ ἄδικα πάντα τὰ ἔργα αὐτῶν τὰ τοιαῦτα, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν αὐτοῖς ἀλήθεια, καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀδικίᾳ αὐτῶν ἀπολύνται.

Καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια μένει καὶ ἰσχύει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, καὶ ζῇ καὶ 38 κρατεῖ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τοῦ αἰῶνος. Καὶ οὐκ ἔστι παρ' αὐτὴν 39 λαμβάνειν πρόσωπα, οὐδὲ διάφορα, ἀλλὰ τὰ δίκαια ποιεῖ ἀπὸ πάντων τῶν ἀδίκων καὶ πονηρῶν· καὶ πάντες εὐδοκοῦσι τοῖς ἔργοις αὐτῆς, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν τῇ κρίσει αὐτῆς οὐδὲν ἄδικον· 40 καὶ αὕτη, ἡ ἰσχύς, καὶ τὸ βασίλειον, καὶ ἡ ἐξουσία, καὶ ἡ μεγαλειότης τῶν πάντων αἰώνων· εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεὸς τῆς ἀληθείας.

Καὶ ἐσιώπησε τοῦ λαλεῖν· καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς τότε ἐφώνησε· 41 καὶ τότε εἶπον, μεγάλη ἡ ἀλήθεια, καὶ ὑπερισχύει· τότε 42 ὁ βασιλεὺς εἶπεν αὐτῷ, αἰτησαι ὃ θέλεις πλείω τῶν γεγραμμένων, καὶ δώσομέν σοι ὃν τρόπον εὐρέθης σοφώτερος, καὶ ἐχόμενός μου καθήσῃ, καὶ συγγενής μου κληθήσῃ. Τότε 43 εἶπε τῷ βασιλεῖ, μνήσθητι τὴν εὐχὴν, ἣν ἠῤῥω, οἰκοδομῆσαι τὴν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἣ τὸ βασίλειόν σου παρέλαβες, 44 καὶ πάντα τὰ σκεύη τὰ ληφθέντα ἐξ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἐκπέμψαι ἃ ἐχώρισε Κύριος, ὅτε ἠῤῥατο ἐκκόψαι Βαβυλῶνα, καὶ ἠῤῥατο ἐξαποστεῖλαι ἐκεῖ. Καὶ σὺ ἠῤῥω οἰκοδομῆσαι 45 τὸν ναὸν ὃν ἐνεπύρισαν οἱ Ἰδουμαῖοι, ὅτε ἡρημώθη ἡ Ἰουδαία ὑπὸ τῶν Χαλδαίων. Καὶ νῦν τοῦτό ἐστιν ὃ σε 46 ἀξιώ, κύριε βασιλεῦ, καὶ ὃ αἰτοῦμαί σε, καὶ αὕτη ἐστὶν ἡ μεγαλωσύνη ἡ παρὰ σοῦ· δέομαι οὖν ἵνα ποιήσῃς τὴν εὐχὴν, ἣν ἠῤῥω τῷ βασιλεῖ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, ποιῆσαι ἐκ στόματός σου.

Τότε ἀναστὰς Δαρεῖος ὁ βασιλεὺς κατεφίλησεν αὐτὸν, καὶ 47 ἔγραψεν αὐτῷ τὰς ἐπιστολὰς πρὸς πάντας τοὺς οἰκονόμους, καὶ τοπάρχας, καὶ στρατηγούς, καὶ σατράπας, ἵνα προπέμψωσιν αὐτὸν καὶ τοὺς μετ' αὐτοῦ πάντας ἀναβαίνοντας οἰκοδομῆσαι τὴν Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς τοπάρχαις ἐν κοίλῃ Συρία, 48 καὶ Φοινίκη, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τῷ Λιβάνῳ ἔγραψεν ἐπιστολὰς, μεταφέρειν ξύλα κέδρινα ἀπὸ τοῦ Λιβάνου εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ὅπως οἰκοδομήσωσι μετ' αὐτοῦ τὴν πόλιν.

Καὶ ἔγραψε πᾶσι τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις τοῖς ἀναβαίνουσιν ἀπὸ 49 τῆς βασιλείας εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν ὑπὲρ τῆς ἐλευθερίας, πάντα δυνατὸν, καὶ τοπάρχην, καὶ σατράπην, καὶ οἰκονόμον μὴ ἐπελευθεσθαι ἐπὶ τὰς θύρας αὐτῶν, καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν χώραν ἣν 50 κρατοῦσιν, ἀφορολόγητον αὐτοῖς ὑπάρχειν· καὶ ἵνα οἱ Ἰδουμαῖοι ἀφίωσι τὰς κώμας ἃς διακρατοῦσι τῶν Ἰουδαίων· καὶ 51 εἰς τὴν οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ ἱεροῦ δοθῆναι κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν τάλαντα ἑξοκισι, μέχρι τοῦ οἰκοδομηθῆναι· καὶ ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον 52 ὀλοκαυτώματα καρποῦσθαι καθ' ἡμέραν, καθὰ ἔχουσιν ἐντολήν,

ἑπτακαίδεκα προσφέρειν ἄλλα τάλαντα, δέκα κατ' ἐνιαυτόν·
 53 καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς προσβαίνουσιν ἀπὸ τῆς Βαβυλωνίας κτίσαι τὴν
 πόλιν, ὑπάρχειν τὴν ἐλευθερίαν αὐτοῖς τε καὶ τοῖς ἐκγόνοις
 54 αὐτῶν, καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἱερεῦσι τοῖς προσβαίνουσιν. Ἐγραψε
 δὲ καὶ τὴν χορηγίαν καὶ τὴν ἱερατικὴν στολὴν ἐν τίνι λατρεύ-
 55 ουσιν ἐν αὐτῇ. Καὶ τοῖς Λευítais ἔγραψε δοῦναι τὴν χορηγίαν,
 ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ἧς ἐπιτελεσθῇ ὁ οἶκος καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ οἰκοδο-
 56 μηθῆναι. Καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς φρουροῦσι τὴν πόλιν ἔγραψε δοῦναι
 57 αὐτοῖς κλήρους καὶ ὀψώνια. Καὶ ἐξαπέστειλε πάντα τὰ σκεύη
 ἃ ἐχώρισε Κύρος ἀπὸ Βαβυλῶνος· καὶ πάντα ὅσα εἶπε Κύρος
 ποιῆσαι, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐπέταξε ποιῆσαι, καὶ ἐξαποστείλαι εἰς
 Ἱερουσαλὴμ.

58 Καὶ ὅτε ἐξῆλθεν ὁ νεανίσκος, ἄρας τὸ πρόσωπον εἰς τὸν
 οὐρανὸν ἐναντίον Ἱερουσαλὴμ, εὐλόγησε τῷ βασιλεῖ τοῦ
 59 οὐρανοῦ, λέγων, παρὰ σοῦ νίκη, καὶ παρὰ σοῦ ἡ σοφία,
 60 καὶ σὴ ἡ δόξα, καὶ ἐγὼ σοὶ οἰκέτης. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, ὃς
 ἔδωκας μοι σοφίαν, καὶ σοὶ ὁμολογῶ, δέσποτα τῶν πατέρων.
 61 Καὶ ἔλαβε τὰς ἐπιστολάς, καὶ ἐξῆλθε, καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς
 62 Βαβυλῶνα, καὶ ἀπήγγειλε τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς αὐτοῦ πᾶσι. Καὶ
 εὐλόγησαν τὸν Θεὸν τῶν πατέρων αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἔδωκεν
 63 αὐτοῖς ἄνεσιν καὶ ἄφεσιν, ἀναβῆναι καὶ οἰκοδομῆσαι τὴν
 Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ τὸ ἱερόν, οὗ ὀνομάσθη τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ
 ἐπ' αὐτῷ· καὶ ἐκωθονίζοντο μετὰ μουσικῶν καὶ χαρᾶς
 ἡμέρας ἑπτὰ.

5 Μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα ἐξελέγησαν ἀναβῆναι ἀρχηγοὶ οἴκου πατριῶν
 κατὰ φυλὰς αὐτῶν, καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτῶν,
 καὶ αἱ θυγατέρες, καὶ οἱ παῖδες αὐτῶν, καὶ αἱ παιδίσκαι, καὶ
 2 τὰ κτήνη αὐτῶν. Καὶ Δαρείος συναπέστειλε μετ' αὐτῶν ἱππεῖς
 χιλίους, ἕως τοῦ ἀποκαταστήσαι αὐτοὺς εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ μετ'
 3 εἰρήνης, καὶ μετὰ μουσικῶν, τυμπάνων, καὶ αὐλῶν. Καὶ
 πάντες οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτῶν παίζοντες, καὶ ἐποίησεν αὐτοὺς συν-
 αναβῆναι μετ' ἐκείνων.

4 Καὶ ταῦτα τὰ ὀνόματα τῶν ἀνδρῶν τῶν ἀναβαινόντων κατὰ
 πατριὰς αὐτῶν εἰς τὰς φυλὰς, ἐπὶ τὴν μεριδάρχίαν αὐτῶν.

5 Οἱ ἱερεῖς υἱοὶ Φινεές, υἱοὶ Ἀαρὼν, Ἰησοῦς ὁ τοῦ Ἰωσεδέκ τοῦ
 Σαραίου, καὶ Ἰωακὴμ ὁ τοῦ Ζοροβάβελ τοῦ Σαλαθιὴλ ἐκ τοῦ
 6 οἴκου τοῦ Δαυὶδ, ἐκ τῆς γενεᾶς Φαρὲς, φυλῆς δὲ Ἰούδα, ὃς
 ἐλάλησεν ἐπὶ Δαρείῳ τοῦ βασιλέως Περσῶν λόγους σοφοὺς
 ἐν τῷ δευτέρῳ ἔτει τῆς βασιλείας αὐτοῦ, μηνὶ Νισὰν τοῦ πρώ-
 7 του μηνός. Εἰσὶ δὲ οὗτοι οἱ ἐκ τῆς γῆς Ἰουδαίας ἀναβάντες
 ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας τῆς παροικίας, οὓς μετέκτισε Ναβουχοδο-
 8 νόσορ βασιλεὺς Βαβυλῶνος εἰς Βαβυλῶνα. Καὶ ἐπέστρεψαν
 εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ τὴν λοιπὴν Ἰουδαίαν ἕκαστος εἰς τὴν
 ἰδίαν πόλιν, οἱ ἐλθόντες μετὰ Ζοροβάβελ, καὶ Ἰησοῦ,
 Νεεμίου, Ζαραίου, Ῥησαίου, Ἐννέος, Μαρδοχαίου, Βεελσά-
 ρου, Ἀσφαράσου, Ῥεελίου, Ῥοῖμον, Βαανὰ, τῶν προηγουμέ-
 νων αὐτῶν.

9 Ἀριθμὸς τῶν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἔθνους καὶ οἱ προηγούμενοι αὐτῶν· υἱοὶ
 Φόρος, δύο χιλιάδες καὶ ἑκατὸν ἑβδομηκονταδύο· υἱοὶ Σαφάτ,
 τετρακόσιοι ἑβδομηκονταδύο.

10 Υἱοὶ Ἀρὲς, ἑπτακόσιοι πεντηκονταεξ.

altar every day, as they had a command-
 ment to offer seventeen : ⁵³ and that all they
 that went from Babylon to build the city
 should have free liberty, as well they as
 their posterity, and all the priests that went
 away. ⁵⁴ He wrote also concerning the
 charges, and the priests' vestments where-
 in they minister ; ⁵⁵ and likewise for the
 charges of the Levites, to be given them
 until the day that the house were finished,
 and Jerusalem builded up. ⁵⁶ And he com-
 manded to give to all that kept the city
 pensions and wages. ⁵⁷ He sent away also
 all the vessels from Babylon, that Cyrus
 had set apart ; and all that Cyrus had given
 in commandment, the same charged he also
 to be done, and sent unto Jerusalem.

⁵⁸ Now when this young man was gone
 forth, he lifted up his face to heaven toward
 Jerusalem, and praised the King of heaven,
⁵⁹ and said, From thee cometh victory,
 from thee cometh wisdom, and thine is the
 glory, and I am thy servant. ⁶⁰ Blessed art
 thou, who hast given me wisdom : and to
 thee I give thanks, O Lord of our fathers.
⁶¹ And so he took the letters, and went out,
 and came unto Babylon, and told it all his
 brethren. ⁶² And they praised the God of
 their fathers, because he had given them
 freedom and liberty ⁶³ to go up, and to
 build Jerusalem, and the temple which is
 called by his name : and they feasted with
 instruments of musick and gladness seven
 days.

After this were the principal men of the
 families chosen according to their tribes,
 to go up with their wives and sons and
 daughters, with their menservants and
 maidservants, and their cattle. ² And Darius
 sent with them a thousand horsemen, till
 they had brought them back to Jerusalem
 safely, and with musical instruments,
 tabrets and flutes. ³ And all their brethren
 played, and he made them go up together
 with them.

⁴ And these are the names of the men
 which went up, according to their families,
 among their tribes, after their several heads.
⁵ The priests, the sons of Phinees, the sons of
 Aaron : Jesus the son of Josedec, the son of
 Saraïas, and Joacim the son of Zorobabel,
 the son of Salathiel, of the house of David,
 out of the kindred of Phares, of the tribe
 of Judah ; ⁶ who spake wise sentences before
 Darius the king of Persia in the second
 year of his reign, in the month Nisan, which
 is the first month. ⁷ And these are they of
 Jewry that came up from the captivity,
 where they dwelt as strangers, whom Nabu-
 chodonosor the king of Babylon had carried
 away unto Babylon. ⁸ And they returned
 unto Jerusalem, and to the other parts of
 Jewry, every man to his own city, who came
 with Zorobabel, and Jesus, Nehemias,
 Zaraïas, Reesaias, Enenius, Mardocheus,
 Beelsarus, Aspharasus, Reelius, Roimus,
 and Baana, their guides.

⁹ The number of them of the nation, and
 their governors : the sons of Phoros, two
 thousand an hundred seventy and two :
 the sons of Saphat, four hundred seventy
 and two :

¹⁰ The sons of Ares, seven hundred fifty
 and six :

¹¹ The sons of Phaath Moab, among the sons of Jesus and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and twelve:

¹² The sons of Elam, a thousand two hundred fifty and four: the sons of Zathui, nine hundred seventy and five: the sons of Corbe, seven hundred and five: the sons of Bani, six hundred forty and eight:

¹³ The sons of Bebai, six hundred thirty and three: the sons of Argai, one thousand three hundred twenty and two:

¹⁴ The sons of Adonikan, six hundred thirty and seven: the sons of Bagoi, two thousand six hundred and six: the sons of Adin, four hundred fifty and four:

¹⁵ The sons of Ater, son of Ezekias, ninety and two: the sons of Cilan and Azenan, threescore and seven: the sons of Azarus, four hundred thirty and two:

¹⁶ The sons of Annis, an hundred and one: the sons of Arom, thirty-two: the sons of Bassai, three hundred twenty and three: the sons of Arsiphurith, an hundred and two:

¹⁷ The sons of Beterus, three thousand and five: the sons of Bethlomon, an hundred twenty and three:

¹⁸ They of Netophah, fifty and five: they of Anathoth, an hundred fifty and eight: they of Bethsamos, forty and two:

¹⁹ They of Kiriathiarus, twenty and five: they of Caphira and Beroth, seven hundred forty and three.

²⁰ They of Chadias and Ammidoi, four hundred twenty and two: they of Cirama and Gabbes, six hundred twenty and one:

²¹ They of Macalon, an hundred twenty and two: they of Betolius, fifty and two: the sons of Nephis, an hundred fifty and six:

²² The sons of Calamolalus and Onus, seven hundred twenty and five: the sons of Jerechus, two hundred forty and five:

²³ The sons of Sanaas, three thousand three hundred and one.

²⁴ The priests: the sons of Jeddu, the son of Jesus, among the sons of Sanasib, eight hundred seventy and two: the sons of Emmeruth, two hundred fifty and two:

²⁵ The sons of Phassaron, a thousand forty and seven: the sons of Carme, two hundred and seventeen.

²⁶ The Levites: the sons of Jessue, and Cadmiel, and Banuas, and Sudias, seventy and four.

²⁷ The holy singers: the sons of Asaph, an hundred twenty and eight.

²⁸ The porters: the sons of Salum, the sons of Atar, the sons of Tolman, the sons of Dacobi, the sons of Ateta, the sons of Tobis, in all an hundred thirty and nine.

²⁹ The servants of the temple: the sons of Esau, the sons of Asipha, the sons of Tabaoth, the sons of Ceras, the sons of Sud, the sons of Phaleas, the sons of Labana, the sons of Agraba,

³⁰ The sons of Acud, the sons of Uta, the sons of Cetab, the sons of Agaba, the sons of Subai, the sons of Anan, the sons of Cathua, the sons of Geddur,

³¹ The sons of Jairus, the sons of Daisan, the sons of Noeba, the sons of Chaseba, the sons of Cazera, the sons of Ozia, the sons of Phinees, the sons of Azara, the sons of Bastai, the sons of Assana, the sons of Mani, the sons of Naphisi, the sons of Acuph, the sons of Achiba, the sons of Asub, the sons of Pharacim, the sons of Basalem,

Υἱοὶ Φαὰθ Μωὰβ εἰς τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἰησοῦ καὶ Ἰωὰβ, δισχίλιοι 11
ὀκτακόσιοι δεκαδύο.

Υἱοὶ Ἑλὰμ, χίλιοι διακόσιοι πεντηκοντατέσσαρες· υἱοὶ 12
Ζαθουὶ, ἐννακόσιοι ἐβδομηκονταπέντε· υἱοὶ Χορβὲ, ἐπτακόσιοι
πέντε· υἱοὶ Βανὶ, ἑξακόσιοι τεσσαρακονταδύο.

Υἱοὶ Βηβαὶ, ἑξακόσιοι τριακοντατρεῖς· υἱοὶ Ἀργαὶ, χίλιοι 13
τριακόσιοι εἰκοσιδύο.

Υἱοὶ Ἀδωνικὰν, ἑξακόσιοι τριακονταεπτὰ· υἱοὶ Βαγοὶ, 14
δισχίλιοι ἑξακόσιοι ἑξ· υἱοὶ Ἀδινοῦ, τετρακόσιοι πεντηκοντα-
τέσσαρες·

Υἱοὶ Ἀτῆρ Ἐζεκίου, ἐννενηκονταδύο· υἱοὶ Κιλὰν, καὶ 15
Ἀζηγὰν, ἑξηκονταεπτὰ· υἱοὶ Ἀζαροῦ, τετρακόσιοι τρια-
κονταδύο.

Υἱοὶ Ἀννὶς, ἑκατὸν εἷς· υἱοὶ Ἀρὸμ, τριακονταδύο· υἱοὶ 16
Βασσαὶ, τριακόσιοι εἰκοσιτρεῖς· υἱοὶ Ἀρσιφουρίθ, ἑκατὸν δύο.

Υἱοὶ Βαιθηροῦς, τρισχίλιοι πέντε· υἱοὶ ἐκ Βαιθλωμῶν, ἑκατὸν 17
εἰκοσιτρεῖς.

Οἱ ἐκ Νετωφὰς, πεντηκονταπέντε· οἱ ἐξ Ἀναθὼθ, ἑκατὸν 18
πεντηκονταοκτώ· οἱ ἐκ Βαιθασμῶν, τεσσαρακονταδύο.

Οἱ ἐκ Καριαθιρὶ, εἰκοσιπέντε· οἱ ἐκ Καφεείρας, καὶ Βηρώγ, 19
ἐπτακόσιοι τεσσαρακοντατρεῖς.

Οἱ Χαδιασαὶ καὶ Ἀρμίδιοι, τετρακόσιοι εἰκοσιδύο· οἱ ἐκ 20
Κιραμὰς καὶ Γαββῆς, ἑξακόσιοι εἰκοσι εἷς.

Οἱ ἐκ Μακαλῶν, ἑκατὸν εἰκοσιδύο· οἱ ἐκ Βετολίω, πεντη- 21
κονταδύο· υἱοὶ Νιφὶς, ἑκατὸν πεντηκονταῆξ.

Υἱοὶ Καλαμωλάλου, καὶ Ὠνοῦς, ἐπτακόσιοι εἰκοσιπέντε· υἱοὶ 22
Ἰερεχοῦ, διακόσιοι τεσσαρακονταπέντε.

Υἱοὶ Σανάας, τρισχίλιοι τριακόσιοι εἷς. 23

Οἱ ἱερεῖς οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰεδδὸν τοῦ Ἰησοῦ εἰς τοὺς υἱοὺς Σανασὶβ, 24
ὀκτακόσιοι ἐβδομηκονταδύο· υἱοὶ Ἐμμηροῦθ, διακόσιοι πεντη-
κονταδύο.

Υἱοὶ Φασσοῦρον, χίλιοι τεσσαρακονταεπτὰ· υἱοὶ Χαρμὶ, δια- 25
κόσιοι δεκαεπτὰ.

Οἱ Λευῖται οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ Καδοῖλου, καὶ Βάννου, καὶ 26
Σουδίου, ἐβδομηκοντατέσσαρες.

Οἱ ἱεροψάλται υἱοὶ Ἀσὰρ, ἑκατὸν εἰκοσιοκτώ. 27

Οἱ θυρωροὶ υἱοὶ Σαλοῦμ, υἱοὶ Ἀτὰρ, υἱοὶ Τολμὰν, υἱοὶ 28
Δακοῦβ, υἱοὶ Ἀτητὰ, υἱοὶ Τωβὶς, πάντες ἑκατὸν τριακοντα-
εννέα.

Οἱ ἱερόδουλοι, υἱοὶ Ἑσαὺ, υἱοὶ Ἀσιφὰ, υἱοὶ Ταβαὼθ, 29
υἱοὶ Κηρὰς, υἱοὶ Σουδὰ, υἱοὶ Φαλαίου, υἱοὶ Λαβανὰ, υἱοὶ
Ἀγραβὰ,

Υἱοὶ Ἀκουδ, υἱοὶ Οὐτὰ, υἱοὶ Κητὰβ, υἱοὶ Ἀκκαβὰ, υἱοὶ Συβαὶ, 30
υἱοὶ Ἀνὰν, υἱοὶ Καθουὰ, υἱοὶ Γεδδούρ,

Υἱοὶ Ἰαῖρον, υἱοὶ Δαισὰν, υἱοὶ Νοεβὰ, υἱοὶ Χασεβὰ, υἱοὶ 31
Καζηρὰ, υἱοὶ Ὀζίου, υἱοὶ Φινοὲ, υἱοὶ Ἀσαρὰ, υἱοὶ Βασθαὶ, υἱοὶ
Ἀσσανὰ, υἱοὶ Μαγὶ, υἱοὶ Ναφισὶ, υἱοὶ Ἀκουφ, υἱοὶ Ἀχιβὰ, υἱοὶ
Ἀσουβ, υἱοὶ Φαρακὲμ, υἱοὶ Βασαλὲμ,

- 32 Υἱοὶ Μεεδδὰ, υἱοὶ Κουθὰ, υἱοὶ Χαρέα, υἱοὶ Βαρχονέ, υἱοὶ Σερὰρ, υἱοὶ Θομοὶ, υἱοὶ Νασὶ, υἱοὶ Ἀτεφά·
- 33 Υἱοὶ παίδων Σαλωμών, υἱοὶ Ἀσσαπφιὼθ, υἱοὶ Φαριρὰ, υἱοὶ Ἰειηλὶ, υἱοὶ Λοζών, υἱοὶ Ἰσδαὴλ, υἱοὶ Σαφνὺ,
- 34 Υἱοὶ Ἀγιά, υἱοὶ Φαχαρέθ, υἱοὶ Σαβιῇ, υἱοὶ Σαρωθὶ, υἱοὶ Μισαίας, υἱοὶ Γὰς, υἱοὶ Ἀδδούς, υἱοὶ Σουβὰ, υἱοὶ Ἀφερρά, υἱοὶ Βαρωδὶς, υἱοὶ Σαφάγ, υἱοὶ Ἀλλώμ·
- 35 Πάντες οἱ ἱερόδουλοι, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ τῶν παίδων Σαλωμών τριακόσιοι ἐβδομηκονταδύο.
- 36 Οὗτοι ἀναβάντες ἀπὸ Θερμελέθ, καὶ Θελερσὰς, ἡγούμενος
- 37 αὐτῶν Χαρααθαλάν, καὶ Ἀαλάρ. Καὶ οὐκ ἠδύναντο ἀπαγγεῖλαι τὰς πατριὰς αὐτῶν καὶ γενεὰς, ὥς ἐκ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ εἰσιν· υἱοὶ Δαλάν τοῦ υἱοῦ τοῦ Βαενάν, υἱοὶ Νεκωδάν, ἑξακόσιοι πεντηκονταδύο.
- 38 Καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἱερέων οἱ ἐμποιοῦμενοι ἱερωσύνης, καὶ οὐχ εὐρέθησαν, υἱοὶ Ὀβδία, υἱοὶ Ἀκβὼς, υἱοὶ Ἰαδδὸν τοῦ λαβόντος Αὐγίαν γυναῖκα τῶν θυγατέρων Φαηζελδαίου, καὶ ἐκλήθη ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ.
- 39 Καὶ τούτων ζητηθείσης τῆς γενικῆς γραφῆς ἐν τῷ καταλοχισμῷ καὶ μὴ εὐρεθείσης, ἐχωρίσθησαν τοῦ ἱερατεύειν.
- 40 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς Νεεμίας καὶ Ἀτθαρίας, μὴ μετέχειν τῶν ἁγίων ἕως ἀναστῇ ἀρχιερεὺς ἐνδεδυμένος τὴν δήλωσιν καὶ τὴν ἀλήθειαν.
- 41 Οἱ δὲ πάντες Ἰσραὴλ ἦσαν ἀπὸ δωδεκαετοῦς καὶ ἐπάνω χωρὶς παίδων καὶ παιδισκῶν, μυριάδες τέσσαρες δισχίλιοι
- 42 τριακόσιοι ἐξήκοντα. Παῖδες τούτων καὶ παιδίσκαι, ἑπτακισχίλιοι τριακόσιοι τριακονταεπτὰ· ψάλλται καὶ ψαλτωδοὶ,
- 43 διακόσιοι τεσσαρακονταπέντε· Κάμηλοι τετρακόσιοι τριακονταπέντε, καὶ ἵπποι ἑπτακισχίλιοι τριακονταεξ, ἡμίονοι διακόσιοι τεσσαρακονταπέντε, ὑποζύγια πεντακισχίλια πεντακόσια εἰκοσιπέντε.
- 44 Καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἡγούμενων κατὰ τὰς πατριὰς ἐν τῷ παραγίνεσθαι αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ τὸ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ἠῴξαντο ἐγείρειν
- 45 τὸν οἶκον ἐπὶ τοῦ τόπου αὐτοῦ κατὰ τὴν αὐτῶν δύναμιν, καὶ δοῦναι εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν γαζοφυλάκιον τῶν ἔργων, χρυσίου μνᾶς χιλίας καὶ ἀργυρίου μνᾶς πεντακισχιλίας, καὶ στολὰς ἱερατικὰς ἑκατόν.
- 46 Καὶ κατωκίσθησαν οἱ ἱερεῖς, καὶ οἱ Λευῖται, καὶ οἱ ἐκ τοῦ λαοῦ αὐτοῦ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ τῇ χώρᾳ, οἳ τε ἱεροψάλται, καὶ οἱ θυρωροὶ, καὶ πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ ἐν ταῖς κώμαις αὐτῶν.
- 47 Ἐνστάντος δὲ τοῦ ἐβδόμου μηνός, καὶ ὄντων τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ ἐκάστου ἐν τοῖς ἰδίοις, συνήχθησαν ὁμοθυμαδὸν εἰς τὸ εὐρύχωρον τοῦ πρώτου πυλῶνος τοῦ πρὸς τῇ
- 48 ἀνατολῇ. Καὶ καταστὰς Ἰησοῦς ὁ τοῦ Ἰωσεδέκ καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ οἱ ἱερεῖς, καὶ Ζοροβάβελ ὁ τοῦ Σαλαθιὴλ καὶ οἱ τούτου ἀδελφοὶ, ἡτοίμασαν τὸ θυσιαστήριον τοῦ
- 49 Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, προσενέγκαι ἐπ' αὐτοῦ ὀλοκαυτώσεις, ἀκολουθῶς τοῖς ἐν τῇ Μωσέως βίβλῳ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τοῦ Θεοῦ διηγορευμένοις.
- 50 Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν αὐτοῖς ἐκ τῶν ἄλλων ἐθνῶν τῆς γῆς,

³² The sons of Meedda, the sons of Coutha, the sons of Charea, the sons of Barcue, the sons of Serar, the sons of Thomoi, the sons of Nasith, the sons of Atipha.

³³ The sons of the servants of Solomon: the sons of Azaphioth, the sons of Pharira, the sons of Jeieli, the sons of Lozon, the sons of Isdael, the sons of Saphui,

³⁴ The sons of Hagia, the sons of Phacareth, the sons of Sabi, the sons of Sarothi, the sons of Misaias, the sons of Gas, the sons of Addus, the sons of Suba, the sons of Apherra, the sons of Barodis, the sons of Saphag, the sons of Allom.

³⁵ All the ministers of the temple, and the sons of the servants of Solomon, were three hundred seventy and two.

³⁶ These came up from Thermeleth and Thelersas, Charaathalan leading them, and Aalar; ³⁷ they could not shew their families or their stock, how they were of Israel: the sons of Dalan, the son of Baenan, the sons of Necedan, six hundred fifty and two.

³⁸ And of the priests that usurped the office of the priesthood, and were not found: the sons of Obdia, the sons of Acbos, the sons of Jaddus, who married Augia one of the daughters of Phaezeldæus, and was named after his name.

³⁹ And when the description of the kindred of these men was sought in the register, and was not found, they were removed from executing the office of the priesthood: ⁴⁰ for unto them said Nehemias and Attharias, that they should not be partakers of the holy things, till there arose up an high priest clothed with doctrine and truth.

⁴¹ So of Israel, from them of twelve years old and upward, beside menservants and womenservants, they were all in number forty thousand, two thousand three hundred and sixty. ⁴² Their menservants and handmaids were seven thousand three hundred thirty and seven: the singing men and singing women, two hundred forty and five: ⁴³ four hundred thirty and five camels, seven thousand thirty and six horses, two hundred forty and five mules, five thousand five hundred twenty and five beasts used to the yoke:

⁴⁴ And certain of the chief of their families, when they came to the temple of God that is in Jerusalem, vowed to set up the house again in his own place according to their ability, ⁴⁵ and to give into the holy treasury of the works a thousand pounds of gold, five thousand of silver, and an hundred priestly vestments. ⁴⁶ And so dwelt the priests and the Levites and the people in Jerusalem, and in the country, the singers also and the porters; and all Israel in their villages.

⁴⁷ But when the seventh month was at hand, and when the children of Israel were every man in his own place, they came altogether with one consent into the open place of the first gate which is toward the east. ⁴⁸ Then stood up Jesus the son of Josedec, and his brethren the priests, and Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, and his brethren, and made ready the altar of the God of Israel, ⁴⁹ to offer burnt sacrifices upon it, according as it is expressly commanded in the book of Moses the man of God.

⁵⁰ And there were gathered unto them out of the other nations of the land, and they

erected the altar upon his own place, because all the nations of the land were at enmity with them, and oppressed them; and they offered sacrifices according to the time, and burnt offerings to the Lord both morning and evening. ⁵¹ Also they held the feast of tabernacles, as it is commanded in the law, and offered sacrifices daily, as was meet: ⁵² and after that, the continual oblations, and the sacrifice of the sabbaths, and of the new moons, and of all holy feasts.

⁵³ And all they that had made any vow to God began to offer sacrifices to God from the first day of the seventh month, although the temple of the Lord was not yet built.

⁵⁴ And they gave unto the masons and carpenters money, meat, and drink, with cheerfulness. ⁵⁵ Unto them of Zidon also and Tyre they gave cars, that they should bring cedar trees from Libanus, which should be brought by floats to the haven of Joppe, according as it was commanded them by Cyrus king of the Persians.

⁵⁶ And in the second year and second month after his coming to the temple of God at Jerusalem began Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, and Jesus the son of Josedec, and their brethren, and the priests, and the Levites, and all they that were come unto Jerusalem out of the captivity: ⁵⁷ and they laid the foundation of the house of God in the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come to Jewry and Jerusalem. ⁵⁸ And they appointed the Levites from twenty years old over the works of the Lord. Then stood up Jesus, and his sons and brethren, and Cadmiel his brother, and the sons of Emadabun, with the sons of Joda the son of Eliadud, with their sons and brethren, all Levites, with one accord setters forward of the business, labouring to advance the works in the house of the Lord. So the builders built the temple of the Lord.

⁵⁹ And the priests stood arrayed in their vestments with musical instruments and trumpets; and the Levites the sons of Asaph had cymbals, ⁶⁰ singing songs of thanksgiving, and praising the Lord, according as David the king of Israel had ordained.

⁶¹ And they sung with loud voices songs to the praise of the Lord, because his mercy and glory is for ever in all Israel. ⁶² And all the people sounded trumpets, and shouted with a loud voice, singing songs of thanksgiving unto the Lord for the rearing up of the house of the Lord.

⁶³ Also of the priests and Levites, and of the chief of their families, the ancients who had seen the former house came to the building of this with weeping and great crying. ⁶⁴ But many with trumpets and joy shouted with loud voice, ⁶⁵ insomuch that the trumpets might not be heard for the weeping of the people; yet the multitude sounded marvellously, so that it was heard afar off.

⁶⁶ Wherefore when the enemies of the tribe of Juda and Benjamin heard it, they came to know what the noise of trumpets should mean. ⁶⁷ And they perceived that they that were of the captivity did build the temple unto the Lord God of Israel. ⁶⁸ So they went to Zorobabel and Jesus, and to the chief of the families, and said unto

καὶ κατώρθωσαν τὸ θυσιαστήριον ἐπὶ τοῦ τόπου αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἐν ἔχθρᾳ ἦσαν αὐτοῖς, καὶ κατίσχυσαν αὐτοὺς πάντα τὰ ἔθνη τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς· καὶ ἀνέφερον θυσίας κατὰ τὸν καιρὸν, καὶ ὀλοκαυτώματα Κυρίῳ τὸ πρωῒνόν καὶ τὸ δειλινόν. Καὶ ἐγάγosan τὴν τῆς σκηνοπηγίας ἑορτὴν, ὡς ἐπιτέταται 51 ἐν τῷ νόμῳ, καὶ θυσίας καθ' ἡμέραν, ὡς προσήκον ἦν· καὶ 52 μετὰ ταῦτα προσφοράς ἐνδελεχισμοῦ, καὶ θυσίας σαββάτων καὶ νουμηνιῶν καὶ ἑορτῶν πασῶν ἡγιασμένων.

Καὶ ὅσοι ἠῴξαντο εὐχὴν τῷ Θεῷ ἀπὸ τῆς νουμηνίας τοῦ 53 ἐβδόμου μηνός, ἤρξαντο προσφέρειν θυσίας τῷ Θεῷ, καὶ ὁ ναὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ οὐκ ᾔκοδόμητο.

Καὶ ἔδωκαν ἀργύριον τοῖς λατόμοις καὶ τέκτοσι, καὶ ποτὰ 54 καὶ βρωτὰ, καὶ χάρβρα τοῖς Σιδωνίοις καὶ Τυρίοις εἰς τὸ παρ- 55 ἀγειν αὐτοὺς ἐκ τοῦ Λιβάνου ξύλα κέδρινα, διαφέρειν σχεδίας εἰς τὸν Ἰόππης λιμένα, κατὰ τὸ πρόσταγμα τὸ γραφὲν αὐτοῖς παρὰ Κύρου τοῦ Περσῶν βασιλέως.

Καὶ τῷ δευτέρῳ ἔτει παραγενόμενος εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ εἰς 56 Ἱερουσαλὴμ μηνὸς δευτέρου, ἤρξατο Ζοροβάβελ ὁ τοῦ Σαλα- θιήλ, καὶ Ἰησοῦς ὁ τοῦ Ἰωσεδέκ, καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτῶν, καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς οἱ Λευῖται, καὶ πάντες οἱ παραγενόμενοι ἐκ τῆς αἰχμα- λωσίας εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἐθεμελίωσαν τὸν ναὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ 57 τῇ νουμηνίᾳ τοῦ δευτέρου μηνός τοῦ δευτέρου ἔτους, ἐν τῷ ἔλθειν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν καὶ Ἱερουσαλήμ. Καὶ ἔστησαν τοὺς Λευίτας 58 ἀπὸ εἰκοσαετοῦς ἐπὶ τῶν ἔργων τοῦ Κυρίου· καὶ ἔστη Ἰησοῦς, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ, καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ, καὶ Καδμιήλ ὁ ἀδελφός, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ Ἡμαδαβὸν, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰωδὰ τοῦ Ἡλιαδοῦδ συν τοῖς υἱοῖς καὶ ἀδελφοῖς, πάντες οἱ Λευῖται ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐργοδιώκται, ποιῶντες εἰς τὰ ἔργα ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ τοῦ Κυρίου· καὶ ᾔκοδόμησαν οἱ οἰκοδόμοι τὸν ναὸν τοῦ Κυρίου.

Καὶ ἔστησαν οἱ ἱερεῖς ἐστολισμένοι μετὰ μουσικῶν καὶ 59 σαλπίγγων, καὶ οἱ Λευῖται υἱοὶ Ἀσαφ ἔχοντες τὰ κύμβαλα 60 ὑμνοῦντες τῷ Κυρίῳ, καὶ εὐλογοῦντες κατὰ Δαυὶδ βασιλέα τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ.

Καὶ ἐφώνησαν δι' ὕμνων εὐλογοῦντες τῷ Κυρίῳ, ὅτι ἡ 61 χρηστότης αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡ δόξα εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας ἐν παντὶ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ἐσάλπισαν καὶ ἐβόησαν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, ὑμνοῦν- 62 τες τῷ Κυρίῳ ἐπὶ τῇ ἐγέρσει τοῦ οἴκου Κυρίου.

Καὶ ἤλθοσαν ἐκ τῶν ἱερῶν τῶν Λευιτῶν καὶ τῶν προκαθη- 63 μένων κατὰ τὰς πατριὰς αὐτῶν, οἱ πρεσβύτεροι οἱ ἑωρακότες τὸν πρὸ τούτου οἶκον, πρὸς τὴν τουτου οἰκοδομήν μετὰ κλαυθμοῦ καὶ κραυγῆς μεγάλης, καὶ πολλοὶ διὰ σαλπίγγων καὶ χαρᾶς 64 μεγάλη τῇ φωνῇ, ὥστε τὸν λαὸν μὴ ἀκούειν τῶν σαλπίγγων 65 διὰ τὸν κλαυθμὸν τοῦ λαοῦ· ὁ γὰρ ὄχλος ἦν ὁ σαλπίζων με- γάλως, ὥστε μακρόθεν ἀκούεσθαι.

Καὶ ἀκούσαντες οἱ ἐχθροὶ τῆς φυλῆς Ἰούδα καὶ Βενιαμὴν, ἤλ- 66 θοσαν ἐπιγνῶναι τίς ἡ φωνὴ τῶν σαλπίγγων. Καὶ ἐπέγνωνσαν 67 ὅτι οἱ ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας οἰκοδομοῦσι τὸν ναὸν τῷ Κυρίῳ Θεῷ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ προσελθόντες τῷ Ζοροβάβελ, καὶ Ἰησοῦ, καὶ 68 τοῖς ἡγουμένοις τῶν πατριῶν, λέγουσιν αὐτοῖς, συνιοκοδομή-

69 σωμεν ὑμῖν. Ὅμοιως γὰρ ὑμῖν ἀκούομεν τοῦ Κυρίου ὑμῶν, καὶ αὐτῷ ἐπιθύομεν ἀφ' ἡμερῶν Ἀσβακαφὰς βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων, ὃς μετήγαγεν ἡμᾶς ἐνταῦθα.

70 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς Ζοροβάβελ καὶ Ἰησοῦς καὶ οἱ ἡγούμενοι τῶν πατριῶν τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, οὐχ ἡμῖν καὶ ὑμῖν τοῦ οἰκοδομῆσαι
71 τὸν οἶκον Κυρίῳ Θεῷ ἡμῶν. Ἡμεῖς γὰρ μόνοι οἰκοδομήσωμεν τῷ Κυρίῳ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ἀκολουθῶντες οἷς προσέταξεν ἡμῖν Κύρος
72 ὁ βασιλεὺς Περσῶν. Τὰ δὲ ἔθνη τῆς γῆς ἐπικειμώμενα τοῖς ἐν
73 τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ πολιορκοῦντες, εἶργον τοῦ οἰκοδομεῖν, καὶ βουλάς δημαγωγοῦντες, καὶ συστάσεις ποιοῦμενοι, ἀπεκώλυσαν τοῦ ἀποτελεσθῆναι τὴν οἰκοδομὴν πάντα τὸν χρόνον τῆς ζωῆς τοῦ βασιλέως Κύρου· καὶ εἶρχθησαν τῆς οἰκοδομῆς ἔτη δύο ἕως τῆς Δαρείου βασιλείας.

6 Ἐν δὲ τῷ δευτέρῳ ἔτει τῆς Δαρείου βασιλείας, ἐπροφήτευσεν Ἀγγαῖος καὶ Ζαχαρίας ὁ τοῦ Ἀδδὼ οἱ προφήται ἐπὶ τοὺς Ἰουδαίους τοὺς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματι Κυρίου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ἐπ' αὐτούς.

2 Τότε στὰς Ζοροβάβελ ὁ τοῦ Σαλαθιὴλ καὶ Ἰησοῦς ὁ τοῦ Ἰωσεδὲκ, ἤρξαντο οἰκοδομεῖν τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Κυρίου τὸν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, συνόντων τῶν προφητῶν τοῦ Κυρίου, βοηθούντων
3 αὐτοῖς. Ἐν αὐτῷ τῷ χρόνῳ παρῆν πρὸς αὐτοὺς Σισίννης ὁ ἑπαρχος Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης, καὶ Σαθραβουζάνης καὶ οἱ
4 συνεταῖροι, καὶ εἶπαν αὐτοῖς, τίνος ὑμῖν συντάξαντος τὸν οἶκον τοῦτον οἰκοδομεῖτε, καὶ τὴν στέγην ταύτην καὶ τὰ ἄλλα πάντα ἐπιτελεῖτε; καὶ τίνες εἰσὶν οἰκοδόμοι οἱ ταῦτα ἐπιτελοῦντες;

5 Καὶ ἔσχosan χάριν, ἐπισκοπῆς γενομένης ἐπὶ τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν, παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου οἱ πρεσβύτεροι τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ οὐκ ἐκωλύθησαν τῆς οἰκοδομῆς, μέχρις οὗ ἀποσημανθῆναι Δαρείῳ περὶ αὐτῶν, καὶ προσφωνηθῆναι.

7 ἈΝΤΙΓΡΑΦΟΝ ἘΠΙΣΤΟΛΗΣ ἩΣ ἘΓΡΑΨΕ ΔΑΡΕΙΩ, ΚΑΙ ἈΠΕΣΤΕΙΛΑΝ. Σισίννης ὁ ἑπαρχος Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης, καὶ Σαθραβουζάνης, καὶ οἱ συνεταῖροι οἱ ἐν Συρίᾳ καὶ
8 Φοινίᾳ ἡγεμόνες, βασιλεῖ Δαρείῳ χαίρειν. Πάντα γνωστὰ ἔστω τῷ κυρίῳ ἡμῶν τῷ βασιλεῖ, ὅτι παραγενόμενοι εἰς τὴν χώραν τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ ἐλθόντες εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ τὴν πόλιν, κατελάβομεν τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ τῇ πόλει οἰκοδομοῦντας οἶκον τῷ Κυρίῳ μέγαν, καὶνὸν διὰ λίθων ξυστῶν πολυτελῶν, ξύλων τιθεμένων ἐν
9 τοῖς τοίχοις, καὶ τὰ ἔργα ἐκεῖνα ἐπὶ σπουδῆς γινόμενα, καὶ εὐδοκούμενον τὸ ἔργον ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐν πάσῃ δόξῃ καὶ ἐπιμελείᾳ συντελούμενον.

11 Τότε ἐπυνθανόμεθα τῶν πρεσβυτέρων τούτων, λέγοντες, τίνος ὑμῖν προστάξαντος οἰκοδομεῖτε τὸν οἶκον τοῦτον, καὶ τὰ ἔργα
12 ταῦτα θεμελιούτε; Ἐπρωτήσαμεν οὖν αὐτοὺς, εἵνεκεν τοῦ γνωρῆσαι σοι, καὶ γράψαι σοι τοὺς ἀνθρώπους τοὺς ἀφηγουμένους, καὶ τὴν ὀνοματογραφίαν ἣτοῦμεν αὐτοὺς τῶν προ-
13 καθηγουμένων. Οἱ δὲ ἀπεκρίθησαν ἡμῖν, λέγοντες, ἐσμέν παῖδες τοῦ Κυρίου τοῦ κτίσαντος τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν·
14 καὶ ὑποκόμῃ οἶκος ἔμπροσθεν ἐτῶν πλείονων διὰ βασιλείας

them, We will build together with you.
63 For we likewise, as ye, do obey your Lord, and do sacrifice unto him from the days of Azbarezeth the king of the Assyrians, who brought us hither.

70 Then Zorobabel and Jesus and the chief of the families of Israel said unto them, It is not for us and you to build together an house unto the Lord our God. 71 We ourselves alone will build unto the Lord of Israel, according as Cyrus the king of the Persians hath commanded us. 72 But the heathen of the land lying heavy upon the inhabitants of Judea, and holding them strait, hindered their building; 73 and by their secret plots, and popular persuasions and commotions, they hindered the finishing of the building all the time that king Cyrus lived: so they were hindered from building for the space of two years, until the reign of Darius.

Now in the second year of the reign of Darius, Aggeus and Zacharias the son of Addo, the prophets, prophesied unto the Jews in Jewry and Jerusalem in the name of the Lord God of Israel, which was upon them.

2 Then stood up Zorobabel the son of Salathiel, and Jesus the son of Josedec, and began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, the prophets of the Lord being with them, and helping them. 3 At the same time came unto them Sisinnes the governor of Syria and Phenice, with Sathrabuzanes and his companions, and said unto them, 4 By whose appointment do ye build this house and this roof, and perform all the other things? and who are the workmen that perform these things?

5 Nevertheless the elders of the Jews obtained favour, because the Lord had visited the captivity; 6 and they were not hindered from building, until such time as signification was given unto Darius concerning them, and an answer received.

7 The copy of the letters which Sisinnes, governor of Syria and Phenice, and Sathrabuzanes, with their companions, rulers in Syria and Phenice, wrote and sent unto Darius; To king Darius, greeting: 8 Let all things be known unto our lord the king, that being come into the country of Judea, and entered into the city of Jerusalem, we found in the city of Jerusalem the ancients of the Jews that were of the captivity 9 building an house unto the Lord, great and new, of hewn and costly stones, and the timber already laid upon the walls. 10 And those works are done with great speed, and the work goeth on prosperously in their hands, and with all glory and diligence is it made.

11 Then asked we these elders, saying, By whose commandment build ye this house, and lay the foundations of these works? 12 Therefore to the intent that we might give knowledge unto thee by writing, we demanded of them who were the chief doers, and we required of them the names in writing of their principal men. 13 So they gave us this answer, We are the servants of the Lord which made heaven and earth. 14 And as for this house, it was builded many years

ago by a king of Israel great and strong, and was finished. ¹⁵ But when our fathers provoked God unto wrath, and sinned against the Lord of Israel which is in heaven, he gave them over into the power of Nabuchodonosor king of Babylon, king of the Chaldees; ¹⁶ who pulled down the house, and captives it, and carried away the people burned unto Babylon.

¹⁷ But in the first year that king Cyrus reigned over the country of Babylon, Cyrus the king wrote to build this house. ¹⁸ And the holy vessels of gold and of silver, that Nabuchodonosor had carried away out of the house at Jerusalem, and had set them in his own temple, those Cyrus the king brought forth again out of the temple at Babylon, and they were delivered to Zorobabel, *that is*, to Sanabassarus the ruler, ¹⁹ with commandment that he should carry away the same vessels, and put them in the temple at Jerusalem; and that the temple of the Lord should be built in that place. ²⁰ Then the same Sanabassarus, being come hither, laid the foundations of the house of the Lord at Jerusalem; and from that time to this being still building, it is not yet finished.

²¹ Now therefore, if it seem good unto the king, let search be made among the records of king Cyrus: ²² and if it be found that the building of the house of the Lord at Jerusalem hath been done with the consent of king Cyrus, and if our lord the king be so minded, let him signify unto us thereof.

²³ Then commanded king Darius to seek among the records at Babylon: and so at Ecbatana the palace, which is in the country of Media, there was found a roll wherein these things were recorded. ²⁴ In the first year of the reign of Cyrus, king Cyrus commanded that the house of the Lord at Jerusalem should be built again, where they do sacrifice with continual fire: ²⁵ whose height shall be sixty cubits, and the breadth sixty cubits, with three rows of hewn stones, and one row of new wood of that country; and the expences thereof to be given out of the house of king Cyrus: ²⁶ and that the holy vessels of the house of the Lord, both of gold and silver, that Nabuchodonosor took out of the house at Jerusalem, and brought to Babylon, should be restored to the house at Jerusalem, and be set in the place where they were before.

²⁷ And also he commanded that Sisinnes the governor of Syria and Phenice, and Sathrabuzanes, and their companions, and those which were appointed rulers in Syria and Phenice, should be careful not to meddle with the place, but suffer Zorobabel the servant of the Lord, and governor of Judea, and the elders of the Jews, to build the house of the Lord in that place. ²⁸ I have commanded also to have it built up whole again; and that they look diligently to help those that be of the captivity of the Jews, till the house of the Lord be finished: ²⁹ and out of the tribute of Celosyria and Phenice, a portion carefully to be given these men for the sacrifices of the Lord, *that is*, to Zorobabel the governor, for bullocks, and rams, and lambs; ³⁰ and also corn, salt, wine, and oil, and that continually every year without further question, according as the priests that be in Jerusalem shall

τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ μεγάλου καὶ ἰσχυροῦ, καὶ ἐπετελέσθη. Καὶ ἐπεὶ 15 οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν παραπικράναντες ἡμάρτον εἰς τὸν Κύριον τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ τὸν οὐράνιον, παρέδωκεν αὐτοὺς εἰς χεῖρας Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλέως Βαβυλῶνος βασιλέως τῶν Χαλδαίων. Τὸν τε 16 οἶκον καθελόντες ἐνεπύρισαν, καὶ τὸν λαὸν ἡχμαλώτευσαν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα.

Ἐν δὲ τῷ πρώτῳ ἔτει βασιλεύοντος Κύρου χώρας Βαβυλῶ- 17 νίας, ἔγραψεν ὁ βασιλεὺς Κύρος τὸν οἶκον τοῦτον οἰκοδομῆσαι. Καὶ τὰ ἱερὰ σκεύη τὰ χρυσᾶ καὶ τὰ ἀργυρᾶ, ἃ ἐξήνεγκε Ναβου- 18 χοδονόσορ ἐκ τοῦ οἴκου τοῦ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἀπήνευστο αὐτὰ ἐν τῷ αὐτοῦ ναῷ, πάλιν ἐξήνεγκεν αὐτὰ Κύρος ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐκ τοῦ ναοῦ τοῦ ἐν Βαβυλωνίᾳ, καὶ παρεδόθη Σαβανασσάρῳ Ζοροβάβελ τῷ ἐπάρχῳ, καὶ ἐπετάγη αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀπήνεγκε 19 πάντα τὰ σκεύη ταῦτα ἀποθεῖναι ἐν τῷ ναῷ τῷ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ τὸν ναὸν τοῦ Κυρίου οἰκοδομηθῆναι ἐπὶ τοῦ τόπου. Τότε 20 ὁ Σαβανάσσαρὸς πάραγενόμενος ἐνεβάλετο τοὺς θεμελίους τοῦ οἴκου Κυρίου τοῦ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἀπ' ἐκείνου μέχρι τοῦ νῦν οἰκοδομούμενος οὐκ ἔλαβε συντέλειαν.

Νῦν οὖν εἰ κρίνεται, βασιλεῦ, ἐπισκεπήτω ἐν τοῖς βασι- 21 λικοῖς βιβλιοφυλακίαις τοῦ Κύρου, καὶ ἐὰν εὑρίσκητε, μετὰ 22 τῆς γνώμης Κύρου τοῦ βασιλέως γενομένην τὴν οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ οἴκου Κυρίου τοῦ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ κρίνηται τῷ κυρίῳ βασιλεῖ ἡμῶν, προσφωνησάτω ἡμῖν περὶ τούτων.

Τότε ὁ βασιλεὺς Δαρεῖος προσέταξεν ἐπισκέψασθαι ἐν τοῖς 23 βιβλιοφυλακίαις τοῖς κειμένοις ἐν Βαβυλῶνι. καὶ εὑρέθη ἐν Ἐκβατάνοις τῇ βάρει τῇ ἐν Μηδία χώρα τόπος εἷς, ἐν ᾧ ὑπομνημάτιστο τάδε. Ἐτους πρώτου βασιλεύοντος Κύρου, 24 βασιλεὺς Κύρος προσέταξε τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Κυρίου τὸν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ οἰκοδομῆσαι, ὅπου ἐπιθύουσι διὰ πυρὸς ἐνδελεχοῦς, οὐ τὸ ὕψος πηχῶν ἐξήκοντα, πλάτος πηχῶν ἐξήκοντα διὰ 25 δόμων λιθίνων ξυστῶν τριῶν, καὶ δόμον ξυλίνου ἐγχωρίου καινοῦ ἐνός, καὶ τὸ δαπάνημα δοθῆναι ἐκ τοῦ οἴκου Κύρου τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ τὰ ἱερὰ σκεύη τοῦ οἴκου Κυρίου τὰ τε 26 χρυσᾶ καὶ ἀργυρᾶ, ἃ ἐξήνεγκε Ναβουχοδονόσορ ἐκ τοῦ οἴκου τοῦ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἀπήνεγκεν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα, ἀποκατασταθῆναι εἰς τὸν οἶκον τὸν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, οὗ ἦν κείμενα, ὅπως τεθῇ ἐκεῖ.

Προσέταξε δὲ ἐπιμεληθῆναι Σισίννη ἐπάρχῳ Συρίας καὶ 27 Φοινίκης, καὶ Σαθραβουζάνη, καὶ τοῖς συνεταίροις, καὶ τοῖς ἀποτεταγμένοις ἐν Συρίᾳ καὶ Φοινίᾳ ἡγεμόσιν ἀπέχεσθαι τοῦ τόπου, εἶσαι δὲ τὸν παῖδα Κυρίου Ζοροβάβελ, ἐπαρχον δὲ τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῶν Ἰουδαίων, τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Κυρίου ἐκείνον οἰκοδομεῖν ἐπὶ τοῦ τόπου. Καὶ ἐγὼ δὲ ἐπέταξα 28 ὁλοσχερῶς οἰκοδομῆσαι, καὶ ἀτενίσαι ἵνα συμποιῶσι τοῖς ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας τῆς Ἰουδαίας, μέχρι τοῦ ἐπιτελεσθῆναι τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Κυρίου. καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς φορολογίας κοίλης Συρίας καὶ 29 Φοινίκης ἐπιμελῶς σύνταξιν δίδοσθαι τούτοις τοῖς ἀνθρώποις εἰς θυσίαν τῷ Κυρίῳ, Ζοροβάβελ ἐπάρχῳ εἰς ταύρους, καὶ κριοὺς, καὶ ἄρνας, ὁμοίως δὲ καὶ πυρὸν, καὶ ἄλα, καὶ οἶνον, καὶ 30 ἔλαιον ἐνδελεχῶς κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν, καθὼς ἂν οἱ ἱερεῖς οἱ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ὑπαγορεύσωσιν ἀναλίσκεσθαι καθ' ἡμέραν, ἀναμφισβη-

31 *τήτως, ὅπως προσφέρωνται σπονδαὶ τῷ Θεῷ τῷ ὑψίστῳ ὑπὲρ τοῦ βασιλέως καὶ τῶν παίδων, καὶ προσεύχωνται περὶ τῆς*
 32 *αὐτῶν ζωῆς· καὶ προστάξαι ἵνα ὅσοι ἐὰν παραβῶσί τι τῶν γεγραμμένων καὶ ἀκυρώσωσι, ληφθῇναι ξύλον ἐκ τῶν ιδίων αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπ' αὐτοῦ κρεμασθῇναι, καὶ τὰ ὑπάρχοντα αὐτοῦ εἶναι βασιλικά.*

33 *Διὰ ταῦτα καὶ ὁ Κύριος, οὗ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ ἐπικέκληται ἐκεῖ, ἀφανίσαι πάντα βασιλέα καὶ ἔθνος, ὃς ἐκτενεῖ τὴν χεῖρα αὐτοῦ κωλύσαι ἢ κακοποιῆσαι τὸν οἶκον Κυρίου ἐκεῖνον τὸν ἐν*
 34 *Ἱερουσαλήμ. Ἐγὼ βασιλεὺς Δαρείος δεδογμάτικα ἐπιμελῶς κατὰ ταῦτα γίνεσθαι.*

7 *Τότε Σισίννης ἑπαρχος κοίλης Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης, καὶ Σαθραβουζάνης, καὶ οἱ συνεταῖροι κατακολουθήσαντες τοῖς ὑπὸ*
 2 *τοῦ βασιλέως Δαρείου προσταγέειν, ἐπεστάτουν τῶν ἱερῶν ἔργων ἐπιμελέστερον συνεργοῦντες τοῖς πρεσβυτέροις τῶν*
 3 *Ἰουδαίων καὶ ἱεροστόταις. Καὶ εὖοδα ἐγένετο τὰ ἱερὰ ἔργα, προφητευόντων Ἀγγαίου καὶ Ζαχαρίου τῶν προφητῶν.*

4 *Καὶ συνετέλεσαν ταῦτα διὰ προσταγματος Κυρίου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ· καὶ μετὰ τῆς γνώμης τοῦ Κύρου καὶ Δαρείου καὶ*
 5 *Ἀρταξέρξου βασιλέων Περσῶν, συνετελέσθη ὁ οἶκος ὁ ἅγιος ἕως τρίτης καὶ εἰκάδος μηνὸς Ἀδαρ, τοῦ ἕκτου ἔτους βασιλέως Δαρείου.*

6 *Καὶ ἐποίησαν οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς καὶ οἱ Λευῖται καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ οἱ ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας οἱ προστεθέντες, ἀκο-*
 7 *λούθως τοῖς ἐν τῇ Μωυσέως βίβλῳ. Καὶ προσήνεγκαν εἰς τὸν ἐγκαινισμὸν τοῦ ἱεροῦ τοῦ Κυρίου ταύρους ἑκατὸν, κριοὺς*
 8 *διακοσίους, ἄρνας τετρακοσίους, χιμάρους ὑπὲρ ἁμαρτίας παντὸς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ δώδεκα πρὸς ἀριθμὸν, ἐκ τῶν φυλάρχων τοῦ*
 9 *Ἰσραὴλ δώδεκα. Καὶ ἔστησαν οἱ ἱερεῖς καὶ οἱ Λευῖται κατὰ φυλὰς ἐστολισμένοι ἐπὶ τῶν ἔργων Κυρίου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ἀκο-*
 10 *λούθως τῇ Μωυσέως βίβλῳ, καὶ οἱ θυρωροὶ ἐφ' ἐκάστου πυλῶνος.*

10 *Καὶ ἡγάγosan οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ τῶν ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας τὸ πάσχα ἐν τῇ τεσσαρεσκαδεκάτῃ τοῦ πρώτου μηνὸς, ὅτε ἡγνί-*
 11 *σθησαν οἱ ἱερεῖς καὶ οἱ Λευῖται, ἅμα καὶ πάντες οἱ υἱοὶ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας, ὅτι ἡγνίσθησαν· ὅτι οἱ Λευῖται ἅμα πάντες ἡγνίσθησαν.*

12 *Καὶ ἔθυσαν τὸ πάσχα πᾶσι τοῖς υἱοῖς τοῖς αἰχμαλωσίας, καὶ*
 13 *τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς αὐτῶν τοῖς ἱερεῦσι, καὶ ἑαυτοῖς. Καὶ ἐφάγosan οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ οἱ ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας, πάντες οἱ χωρισθέντες ἀπὸ τῶν βδελυγμάτων τῶν ἐθνῶν τῆς γῆς, ζητοῦντες τὸν Κύριον.*
 14 *Καὶ ἡγάγosan τὴν ἑορτὴν τῶν ἀζύμων ἑπτὰ ἡμέρας εὐφραυνό-*
 15 *μενοι ἐναντι Κυρίου, ὅτι μετέστρεψε τὴν βουλὴν τοῦ βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, κατισχύσαι τὰς χεῖρας αὐτῶν ἐπὶ τὰ ἔργα Κυρίου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ.*

8 *Καὶ μεταγενέστερος τούτων ἐστὶ, βασιλεύοντος Ἀρταξέρξου τοῦ Περσῶν βασιλέως, προσέβη Ἐσδρας Ἀζαραίου, τοῦ Ζεχρίου, τοῦ*
 2 *Χελκίου, τοῦ Σαλήμου, τοῦ Σαδδούκου, τοῦ Ἀχιτῶβ, τοῦ Ἀμαρίου, τοῦ Ὀζίου, τοῦ Βοκκά, τοῦ Ἀβισαῖ, τοῦ Φινεὲς, τοῦ*
 3 *Ἐλεάζαρ, τοῦ Ἀαρὼν, τοῦ ἱερέως τοῦ πρώτου· οὗτος Ἐσδρας*

signify to be daily spent: ³¹that offerings may be made to the most high God for the king and for his children, and that they may pray for their lives. ³²And he commanded that whosoever should transgress, yea, or make light of any thing *herein* written, out of his own house should a tree be taken, and he thereon be hanged, and all his goods seized for the king.

³³The Lord therefore, whose name is there called upon, utterly destroy every king and nation, that stretcheth out his hand to hinder or endamage that house of the Lord in Jerusalem. ³⁴I Darius the king have ordained that according unto these things it be done with diligence.

Then Sisinnes the governor of Celosyria and Phenice, and Sathrabuzanes, with their companions, following the commandments of king Darius, ²did very carefully oversee the holy works, assisting the ancients of the Jews and governors of the temple. ³And so the holy works prospered, when Aggeus and Zacharias the prophets prophesied.

⁴And they finished these things by the commandment of the Lord God of Israel; and with the consent of Cyrus, Darius, and Artaxerxes, kings of Persia, ⁵the holy house was finished in the three and twentieth day of the month Adar, in the sixth year of king Darius.

⁶And the children of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and others that were of the captivity, that were added unto them, did according to the things *written* in the book of Moses. ⁷And to the dedication of the temple of the Lord they offered an hundred bullocks, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs; ⁸and twelve goats for the sin of all Israel, according to the number of the chief of the tribes of Israel. ⁹The priests also and the Levites stood arrayed in their vestments, according to their kindreds, in the service of the Lord God of Israel, according to the book of Moses: and the porters at every gate.

¹⁰And the children of Israel that were of the captivity held the passover the fourteenth day of the first month, after that the priests and the Levites were sanctified, ¹¹together with all the children of the captivity; for they were sanctified, because the Levites were all sanctified together.

¹²And so they offered the passover for all them of the captivity, and for their brethren the priests, and for themselves. ¹³And the children of Israel that came out of the captivity did eat, even all they that had separated themselves from the abominations of the people of the land, and sought the Lord. ¹⁴And they kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days, making merry before the Lord, ¹⁵for that he had turned the counsel of the king of Assyria toward them, to strengthen their hands in the works of the Lord God of Israel.

And after these things, when Artaxerxes the king of the Persians reigned, came Esdras the son of Azarias, the son of Zechrias, the son of Helchias, the son of Salum, ²the son of Sadduc, the son of Achitob, the son of Amarias, the son of Ozias, the son of Boccas, the son of Abisai, the son of Phinees, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the chief priest. ³This Esdras

went up from Babylon, as a scribe, being very ready in the law of Moses, that was given by the God of Israel. ⁴ And the king did him honour: for he found grace in his sight in all his requests.

⁵ There went up with him also certain of the children of Israel, of the priests, of the Levites, of the holy singers, porters, and ministers of the temple, unto Jerusalem, ⁶ in the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes, in the fifth month, this was the king's seventh year; for they went from Babylon in the first day of the first month, and came to Jerusalem, according to the prosperous journey which the Lord gave to him. ⁷ For Esdras had very great skill, so that he omitted nothing of the law and commandments of the Lord, but taught all Israel the ordinances and judgments.

⁸ Now the copy of the commission, which was written from Artaxerxes the king, and came to Esdras the priest and reader of the law of the Lord, is this that followeth;

⁹ King Artaxerxes unto Esdras the priest and reader of the law of the Lord sendeth greeting: ¹⁰ Having determined to deal graciously, I have given order, that such of the nation of the Jews, and of the priests and Levites, being within our realm, as are willing and desirous, should go with thee unto Jerusalem. ¹¹ As many therefore as have a mind thereunto, let them depart with thee, as it hath seemed good both to me and my seven friends the counsellors; ¹² that they may look unto the affairs of Judea and Jerusalem, agreeably to that which is in the law of the Lord; ¹³ and carry the gifts unto the Lord of Israel to Jerusalem, which I and my friends have vowed, and all the gold and silver that in the country of Babylon can be found, to the Lord in Jerusalem, ¹⁴ with that also which is given of the people for the temple of the Lord their God at Jerusalem: and that silver and gold may be collected for bullocks, rams, and lambs, and things thereunto appertaining; ¹⁵ to the end that they may offer sacrifices unto the Lord upon the altar of the Lord their God, which is in Jerusalem.

¹⁶ And whatsoever thou and thy brethren will do with the silver and gold, that do, according to the will of thy God. ¹⁷ And the holy vessels of the Lord, which are given thee for the use of the temple of thy God, which is in Jerusalem, thou shalt set before thy God in Jerusalem. ¹⁸ And whatsoever thing else thou shalt remember for the use of the temple of thy God, thou shalt give it out of the king's treasury.

¹⁹ And I king Artaxerxes have also commanded the keepers of the treasures in Syria and Phenice, that whatsoever Esdras the priest and the reader of the law of the most high God shall send for, they should give it him with speed, ²⁰ to the sum of an hundred talents of silver, likewise also of wheat even to an hundred cors, and an hundred pieces of wine, and other things in abundance. ²¹ Let all things be performed after the law of God diligently unto the most high God, that wrath come not upon the kingdom of the king and his sons. ²² I command you also, that ye require no tax, nor any other imposition, of any of the priests, or Levites, or holy singers, or

ἀνέβη ἐκ Βαβυλῶνος ὡς γραμματεὺς εὐφυὲς ὢν ἐν τῷ Μωυσέως νόμῳ τῷ ἐκδομένῳ ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ ἔδωκεν 4 αὐτῷ ὁ βασιλεὺς δόξαν, εὐρόντος χάριν ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ πάντα τὰ ἀξιώματα αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ συνανέβησαν ἐκ τῶν νιῶν Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ τῶν ἱερέων, καὶ 5 Λευιτῶν, καὶ ἱεροψαλτῶν, καὶ θυρωρῶν, καὶ ἱεροδούλων εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ἔτους ἑβδόμου βασιλεύοντος Ἀρταξέρξου ἐν τῷ 6 πέμπτῳ μηνί· οὗτος ἐνιαυτὸς ἑβδόμος τῷ βασιλεῖ· ἐξελθόντες γὰρ ἐκ Βαβυλῶνος τῇ νουμηνίᾳ τοῦ πρώτου μηνός, παρεγένοντο εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατὰ τὴν δοθείσαν αὐτοῖς εὐδοίαν παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου ἐπ' αὐτῷ. Ὁ γὰρ Ἑσδρας πολλὴν ἐπι- 7 στήμην περιεῖχεν εἰς τὸ μὴδὲν παραλιπεῖν τῶν ἐκ τοῦ νόμου Κυρίου καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἐντολῶν, διδάξαι πάντα τὸν Ἰσραὴλ δικαιομα- καὶ κρίματα.

Προσπεσόντος δὲ τοῦ γραφέντος προστάγματος παρὰ Ἀρτα- 8 ξέρξου βασιλέως πρὸς Ἑσδραν τὸν ἱερέα καὶ ἀναγνώστην τοῦ νόμου Κυρίου, οὗ ἐστὶν ἀντίγραφον τὸ ὑποκείμενον·

Βασιλεὺς Ἀρταξέρξης Ἑσδρα τῷ ἱερεῖ καὶ ἀναγνώστῃ τοῦ 9 νόμου Κυρίου χαίρειν. Καὶ τὰ φιλάνθρωπα ἐγὼ κρίνας προσ- 10 ἔταξα τοὺς βουλομένους ἐκ τοῦ ἔθνους τῶν Ἰουδαίων αἰρετί- ζοντας, καὶ τῶν ἱερέων καὶ τῶν Λευιτῶν, καὶ τῶνδε ἐν τῇ ἡμετέρᾳ βασιλείᾳ, συμπορεύεσθαί σοι εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Ὅσοι 11 οὖν ἐνθυμῶνται, συνεξορμάσθωσαν καθάπερ δέδοκται ἐμοί τε, καὶ τοῖς ἐπτά φίλοις συμβουλευταῖς, ὅπως ἐπισκέψωνται τὰ 12 κατὰ τὴν Ἰουδαίαν καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἀκολουθῶς ᾧ ἔχει ἐν τῷ νόμῳ Κυρίου, καὶ ἀπενεγκεῖν δῶρα τῷ Κυρίῳ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ἃ 13 ἠψάμην ἐγὼ τε καὶ οἱ φίλοι, εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ· καὶ πᾶν χρυσίον καὶ ἀργύριον ὃ ἐὰν εὑρεθῇ ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ τῆς Βαβυλωνίας τῷ Κυρίῳ εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, σὺν τῷ δεδορμένῳ ὑπὸ τοῦ ἔθνους εἰς 14 τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Κυρίου Θεοῦ αὐτῶν τὸ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, συναχθῆναι τό, τε χρυσίον καὶ τὸ ἀργύριον εἰς ταύρους καὶ κριοὺς καὶ ἄρνας, καὶ τὰ τούτοις ἀκόλουθα, ὥστε προσενεγκεῖν θυσίας 15 τῷ Κυρίῳ ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον τοῦ Κυρίου Θεοῦ αὐτῶν τὸ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ.

Καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἐὰν βούλῃ μετὰ τῶν ἀδελφῶν σου ποιῆσαι 16 χρυσίῳ καὶ ἀργυρίῳ, ἐπιτέλει κατὰ τὸ θέλημα τοῦ Θεοῦ σου. Καὶ τὰ ἱερὰ σκευὴ τοῦ Κυρίου τὰ διδόμενά σοι εἰς τὴν 17 χρεῖαν τοῦ ἱεροῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ σου, δώσεις ἐκ τοῦ βασιλικοῦ 18 γαζοφυλακίου.

Κἀγὼ ἰδοὺ Ἀρταξέρξης βασιλεὺς προσέταξα τοῖς γαζοφύ- 19 λαξι Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης, ἵνα ὅσα ἐὰν ἀποστείλῃ Ἑσδρας ὁ ἱερεὺς καὶ ἀναγνώστης τοῦ νόμου τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ὑψίστου, ἐπιμελῶς διδῶσιν αὐτῷ ἕως ἀργυρίου ταλάντων ἑκατὸν, ὁμοίως 20 δὲ καὶ ἕως πυροῦ κόρων ἑκατὸν, καὶ οἴνου μετρητῶν ἑκατὸν· καὶ ἄλλα ἐκ πλήθους πάντα κατὰ τὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ νόμον ἐπιτελεσθήτω 21 ἐπιμελῶς τῷ Θεῷ τῷ ὑψίστῳ, ἕνεκεν τοῦ μὴ γενέσθαι ὀργὴν εἰς τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ βασιλέως καὶ τῶν νιῶν αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ὑμῖν δὲ 22 λέγεται ὅπως πᾶσι τοῖς ἱερεῦσι, καὶ τοῖς Λευίταις, καὶ ἱεροψάλ- ταις, καὶ θυρωροῖς, καὶ ἱεροδούλοις, καὶ πραγματικοῖς τοῦ ἱεροῦ

τούτου μηδὲ μία φορολογία, μηδὲ ἄλλη ἐπιβουλὴ γίνηται, καὶ μηδένα ἔχειν ἐξουσίαν ἐπιβαλεῖν τι τούτοις.

- 23 Καὶ σὺ, Ἐσδρα, κατὰ τὴν σοφίαν τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἀνάδειξον κριτὰς καὶ δικαστὰς, ὅπως δικάζωσιν ἐν ὅλῃ Συρίᾳ καὶ Φοινίκῃ πάντας τοὺς ἐπισταμένους τὸν νόμον τοῦ Θεοῦ σου, καὶ τοὺς μὴ
- 24 ἐπισταμένους διδάξεις. Καὶ πάντες ὅσοι ἂν παραβαίνωσι τὸν νόμον τοῦ Θεοῦ σου καὶ τὸν βασιλικὸν, ἐπιμελῶς κολασθήσονται, ἐάν τε καὶ θανάτῳ, ἐάν τε καὶ τιμωρίᾳ ἢ ἀργυρικῇ ζημίᾳ, ἢ ἀπαγωγῇ.
- 25 Καὶ εἶπεν Ἐσδρας ὁ γραμματεὺς, εὐλογητὸς μόνος Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πατέρων μου, ὁ δούς ταῦτα εἰς τὴν καρδίαν τοῦ
- 26 βασιλέως, δοξάσαι τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ τὸν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἐμὲ ἐτίμησεν ἐναντίον τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ τῶν συμβουλευόντων,
- 27 καὶ πάντων τῶν φίλων, καὶ μεγιστάνων αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐγὼ εὐθαρσῆς ἐγενόμην κατὰ τὴν ἀντίληψιν Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ μου, καὶ συνήγαγον ἄνδρας ἐκ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ὥστε συναναβῆναί μοι.
- 28 Καὶ οὗτοι οἱ προηγούμενοι κατὰ τὰς πατριάς αὐτῶν καὶ τὰς μεριδαρχίας, οἱ ἀναβάντες μετ' ἐμοῦ ἐκ Βαβυλῶνος ἐν
- 29 τῇ βασιλείᾳ Ἀρταξέρξου τοῦ βασιλέως. Ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Φινεὲς, Γηρσὼν· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἰαθαμάρου, Γαμαλιήλ· ἐκ
- 30 τῶν υἱῶν Δαυὶδ, Λαττούς ὁ Σεχενίου· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Φόρος, Ζαχαρίας, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἀπεγράφησαν ἄνδρες ἑκατὸν
- 31 πεντήκοντα· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Φαὰθ Μωὰβ, Ἐλιαωνίας Ζαραίου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες διακόσιοι· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ζαθόης, Ζεχενίας Ἰεζήλου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες τριακόσιοι· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἀδὶν, Ὠβῆθ Ἰωνάθου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες διακόσιοι
- 32 πεντήκοντα· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἡλὰμ, Ἰεσίας Γοθολίου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες ἐβδομήκοντα· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Σαφατίου, Ζαραΐας
- 33 Μιχαήλου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες ἐβδομήκοντα· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἰωὰβ, Ἀβαδίας Ἰεζήλου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες διακόσιοι
- 34 δεκαδύο. Ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Βανίας, Σαλιμῶθ Ἰωσαφίου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες ἐξήκοντα καὶ ἑκατόν· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Βαβὶ, Ζαχαρίας
- 35 Βηβαΐ, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες εἰκοσιοκτὼ· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἀσταθ, Ἰωάννης Ἀκατὰν, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες ἑκατὸν δέκα· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἀδωνικάμ, οἱ ἔσχατοι· καὶ ταῦτα τὰ ὀνόματα αὐτῶν· Ἐλιφαλὰ τοῦ Γεουήλ, καὶ Σαμαίας, καὶ μετ' αὐτῶν ἄνδρες
- 40 ἐβδομήκοντα· ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Βαγὼ, Οὐθὶ ὁ τοῦ Ἰσταλκούρου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρες ἐβδομήκοντα.
- 41 Καὶ συνήγαγον αὐτοὺς ἐπὶ τὸν λεγόμενον Θερὰν ποταμὸν, καὶ παρενεβάλομεν ἡμέρας τρεῖς αὐτόθι, καὶ κατέμαθον αὐτούς.
- 42, 43 Καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἱερέων καὶ ἐκ τῶν Λευιτῶν οὐχ εὐρὼν ἐκεῖ, ἀπέστειλα πρὸς Ἐλεάζαρον, καὶ Ἰδουήλον, καὶ Μαῖα, καὶ Μασμὰν,
- 44 καὶ Ἀλναθὰν, καὶ Σαμαίαν, καὶ Ἰώριβον, Νάθαν, Ἐννατὰν, Ζαχαρίαν, καὶ Μοσόλλαμον τοὺς ἡγουμένους καὶ ἐπιστήμονας,
- 45 καὶ εἶπα αὐτοῖς ἐλθεῖν πρὸς Λοδδαῖον τὸν ἡγούμενον τὸν ἐν τῷ τόπῳ τοῦ γαζοφυλακίου, ἐντειλάμενος αὐτοῖς διαλεχθῆναι Λοδδαίῳ, καὶ τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τῷ τόπῳ γαζοφυλαξίν, ἀποστεῖλαι ἡμῖν τοὺς ἱερατεύοντας ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν.
- 47 Καὶ ἤγαγον ἡμῖν κατὰ τὴν κραταιὰν χεῖρα τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν ἄνδρας ἐπιστήμονας τῶν υἱῶν Μοολὶ τοῦ Λευὶ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, Ἀσεβηβίαν, καὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφούς, ὄντας

porters, or ministers of the temple, or of any that have doings in this temple, and that man have authority to impose any thing upon them.

²³ And thou, Esdras, according to the wisdom of God ordain judges and justices, that they may judge in all Syria and Phenice all those that know the law of thy God; and those that know it not thou shalt teach. ²⁴ And whosoever shall transgress the law of thy God, and of the king, shall be punished diligently, whether it be by death, or other punishment, by penalty of money, or by imprisonment.

²⁵ Then said Esdras the scribe, Blessed be the only Lord God of my fathers, who hath put these things into the heart of the king, to glorify his house that is in Jerusalem: ²⁶ and hath honoured me in the sight of the king, and his counsellors, and all his friends and nobles. ²⁷ Therefore was I encouraged by the help of the Lord my God, and gathered together men of Israel to go up with me.

²⁸ And these are the chief according to their families and several dignities, that went up with me from Babylon in the reign of king Artaxerxes: ²⁹ of the sons of Phinees, Gerson: of the sons of Ithamar, Gamaliel: of the sons of David, Lettus the son of Sechenias: ³⁰ of the sons of Pharez, Zacharias; and with him were counted an hundred and fifty men: ³¹ of the sons of Pahath Moab, Eliaonias, the son of Zarahias, and with him two hundred men: ³² of the sons of Zathoe, Sechenias the son of Jezelus, and with him three hundred men: of the sons of Adin, Obeth the son of Jonathan, and with him two hundred and fifty men: ³³ of the sons of Elam, Josias son of Gotholias, and with him seventy men: ³⁴ of the sons of Saphatias, Zarahias son of Michael, and with him threescore and ten men: ³⁵ of the sons of Joab, Abadiah son of Jezelus, and with him two hundred and twelve men: ³⁶ of the sons of Bania, Salimoth son of Josaphias, and with him an hundred and threescore men: ³⁷ of the sons of Babi, Zacharias son of Bebai, and with him twenty and eight men: ³⁸ of the sons of Astath, Johannes son of Acatan, and with him an hundred and ten men: ³⁹ of the sons of Adonikam the last, and these are the names of them, Eliphalet, son of Geuel, and Samaiah, and with them seventy men: ⁴⁰ of the sons of Bago, Uthi the son of Istalcurus, and with him seventy men.

⁴¹ And these I gathered together to the river called Theras, where we pitched our tents three days: and then I surveyed them.

⁴² But when I had found there none of the priests and Levites, ⁴³ then sent I unto Eleazar, and Idue, and Mæa, and Masman, ⁴⁴ and Alnathan, and Samaiah, and Joribas, and Nathan, Ennatan, Zacharias, and Mosollamus, principal men and learned. ⁴⁵ And I bade them that they should go unto Loddeus the captain, who was in the place of the treasury: ⁴⁶ and commanded them that they should speak unto Loddeus, and to his brethren, and to the treasurers in that place, to send us such men as might execute the priests' office in the house of the Lord.

⁴⁷ And by the mighty hand of our Lord they brought unto us skilful men of the sons of Mooli the son of Levi, the son of Israel, Asebebia, and his sons, and his

brethren, who were eighteen. ⁴⁸ And Asebia, and Annuus, and Osaias his brother, of the sons of Chananeus, and their sons, were twenty men. ⁴⁹ And of the servants of the temple whom David had ordained, and the principal men for the service of the Levites, to wit, the servants of the temple, two hundred and twenty, the catalogue of whose names were shewed.

⁵⁰ And there I vowed a fast unto the young men before our Lord, to desire of him a prosperous journey both for us and them that were with us, for our children, and for the cattle: ⁵¹ for I was ashamed to ask the king footmen, and horsemen, and conduct for safeguard against our adversaries. ⁵² For we had said unto the king, that the power of the Lord our God should be with them that seek him, to support them in all ways. ⁵³ And again we besought our Lord as touching these things, and found him favourable unto us.

⁵⁴ Then I separated twelve of the chief of the priests, Esebrias, and Samias, and ten men of their brethren with them: ⁵⁵ and I weighed them the gold, and the silver, and the holy vessels of the house of our Lord, which the king, and his council, and the princes, and all Israel, had given. ⁵⁶ And when I had weighed it, I delivered unto them six hundred and sixty talents of silver, and silver vessels of an hundred talents, and an hundred talents of gold, ⁵⁷ and twenty golden vessels, and twelve vessels of brass, *even* of fine brass, glittering like gold.

⁵⁸ And I said unto them, Both ye are holy unto the Lord, and the vessels are holy, and the gold and the silver is a vow unto the Lord, the Lord of our fathers. ⁵⁹ Watch ye, and keep them till ye deliver them to the chief of the priests and Levites, and to the principal men of the families of Israel, in Jerusalem, into the chambers of the house of our God. ⁶⁰ So the priests and the Levites, who had received the silver and the gold and the vessels that were in Jerusalem, brought them into the temple of the Lord.

⁶¹ And from the river Theras we departed the twelfth day of the first month, and came to Jerusalem by the mighty hand of our Lord, which was with us: and from the beginning of our journey the Lord delivered us from every enemy, and so we came to Jerusalem. ⁶² And when we had been there three days, the gold and silver that was weighed was delivered in the house of our Lord on the fourth day unto Marmothi the priest the son of Uria. ⁶³ And with him was Eleazar the son of Phinees, and with them were Josabad the son of Jesu and Moeth the son of Sabban, Levites: *all was delivered them* by number and weight. ⁶⁴ And all the weight of them was written up the same hour.

⁶⁵ Moreover they that were come out of the captivity offered sacrifice unto the Lord God of Israel, *even* twelve bullocks for all Israel, fourscore and sixteen rams, ⁶⁶ three-score and twelve lambs, goats for a peace-offering, twelve; all of them a sacrifice to the Lord. ⁶⁷ And they delivered the king's commandments unto the king's stewards, and to the governors of Celosyria and Phenice; and they honoured the people and the temple of God.

δέκα καὶ ὀκτώ· καὶ Ἀσεβίαν, καὶ Ἄννουον, καὶ Ὡσαΐαν 48
ἀδελφὸν ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Χανουναίου, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτῶν εἴκοσι
ἄνδρες· καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἱεροδούλων ὧν ἔδωκε Δαυὶδ, καὶ οἱ ἡγού- 49
μενοι εἰς τὴν ἐργασίαν τῶν Λευιτῶν, ἱεροδούλους διακοσίους καὶ
εἴκοσι· πάντων ἐσημάνθη ἡ ὀνοματογραφία.

Καὶ ἠρώμην ἐκεῖ νηστεῖαν τοῖς νεανίσκοις ἔναντι Κυρίου 50
ἡμῶν, ζητῆσαι παρ' αὐτοῦ εὐδοσίαν ἡμῖν τε καὶ τοῖς συνούσιν.
ἡμῖν, τέκνοις ἡμῶν, καὶ κτήνεσιν. Ἐνετράπην γὰρ αἰτῆσαι 51
τὸν βασιλέα, πεζοὺς τε καὶ ἵππεῖς, καὶ προπομπὴν ἕνεκεν
ἀσφαλείας τῆς πρὸς τοὺς ἐναντιούμενους ἡμῖν. Εἶπαμεν γὰρ 52
τῷ βασιλεῖ, ὅτι ἡ ἰσχὺς τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν ἔσται μετὰ τῶν
ἐπιζητούντων αὐτὸν εἰς πᾶσαν ἐπανόρθωσιν. Καὶ πάλιν 53
ἐδεήθημεν τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν πάντα ταῦτα, καὶ ἐτύχομεν
εὐλάτου.

Καὶ ἐχώρισα τῶν φυλάρχων τῶν ἱερέων ἄνδρας δεκαδύο, καὶ 54
Ἑσερεβίαν καὶ Σαμίαν, καὶ μετ' αὐτῶν ἐκ τῶν ἀδελφῶν αὐτῶν
ἄνδρας δώδεκα. Καὶ ἔστησα αὐτοῖς τὸ ἀργύριον, καὶ τὸ χρυ- 55
σίον, καὶ τὰ ἱερὰ σκεύη τοῦ οἴκου τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν, ἃ ἔδωρή-
σατο ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ οἱ σύμβουλοι αὐτοῦ, καὶ οἱ μεγιστάνες,
καὶ πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ στήσας παρέδωκα αὐτοῖς ἀργυρίου 56
τάλαντα ἑξακόσια πεντήκοντα, καὶ σκεύη ἀργυρᾶ ταλάντων
ἑκατὸν, καὶ χρυσίου τάλαντα ἑκατὸν, καὶ χρυσώματα εἴκοσι, 57
καὶ σκεύη χάλκεα ἀπὸ χρηστοῦ χαλκοῦ στίλβοντα χρυσοειδῆ
σκεύη δώδεκα.

Καὶ εἶπα αὐτοῖς, καὶ ὑμεῖς ἄγιοι ἐστὲ τῷ Κυρίῳ, καὶ τὰ 58
σκεύη τὰ ἅγια, καὶ τὸ χρυσίον, καὶ τὸ ἀργύριον, εὐχὴ τῷ
Κυρίῳ, Κυρίῳ τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν. Ἀγρυπνεῖτε, καὶ φυλάσ- 59
σετε ἕως τοῦ παραδοῦναι ὑμᾶς αὐτὰ τοῖς φυλάρχοις τῶν ἱερέων
καὶ τῶν Λευιτῶν, καὶ τοῖς ἡγουμένοις τῶν πατριῶν τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ
ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ἐν τοῖς παστοφορίοις τοῦ οἴκου τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν.
Καὶ οἱ παραλαβόντες οἱ ἱερεῖς καὶ οἱ Λευῖται τὸ ἀργύριον, καὶ 60
τὸ χρυσίον, καὶ τὰ σκεύη τὰ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, εἰσήνεγκαν εἰς τὸ
ἱερὸν τοῦ Κυρίου.

Καὶ ἀναζεύξαντες ἀπὸ τοῦ ποταμοῦ Θερὰ τῇ δωδεκάτῃ τοῦ 61
πρώτου μηνός, ἕως εἰσήλθομεν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατὰ τὴν κρα-
ταιὰν χεῖρα τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν τὴν ἐφ' ἡμῖν· καὶ ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς
ἀπὸ τῆς εἰσόδου ἀπὸ παντὸς ἐχθροῦ, καὶ ἦλθομεν εἰς Ἱερου-
σαλὴμ. Καὶ γενομένης αὐτόθι ἡμέρας τρίτης, τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ 62
τετάρτῃ σταθὲν τὸ ἀργύριον καὶ τὸ χρυσίον παρεδόθη ἐν τῷ
οἴκῳ Κυρίου ἡμῶν Μαρμοθὶ Οὐρία ἱερεῖ. Καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ 63
Ἐλεάζαρ ὁ τοῦ Φινεὲς, καὶ ἦσαν μετ' αὐτοῦ Ἰωσαβδὸς Ἰησοῦ,
καὶ Μωῆθ Σαβάννου· οἱ δὲ Λευῖται, πρὸς ἀριθμὸν καὶ ὀλκὴν
ἅπαντα. Καὶ ἐγράφη πᾶσα ἡ ὀλκὴ αὐτῶν αὐτῇ τῇ ὥρᾳ. 64

Οἱ δὲ παραγενόμενοι ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας προσήνεγκαν 65
θυσίας τῷ Θεῷ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ Κυρίῳ, ταύρους δώδεκα ὑπὲρ
παντὸς Ἰσραὴλ, κριοὺς ἐνενηκονταεξ, ἄρνas ἐβδομηκονταδύο, 66
τράγους ὑπὲρ σωτηρίου δώδεκα, ἅπαντα θυσίαν τῷ Κυρίῳ.
Καὶ ἀπέδωκαν τὰ προστάγματα τοῦ βασιλέως τοῖς βασιλικοῖς 67
οἰκονόμοις καὶ τοῖς ἐπάρχois κοίλης Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης, καὶ
ἐδόξασαν τὸ ἔθνος, καὶ τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Κυρίου.

- 68 Καὶ τούτων τελεσθέντων, προσήλθοσάν μοι οἱ ἡγούμενοι,
 69 λέγοντες, οὐκ ἐχώρισαν τὸ ἔθνος τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ καὶ οἱ ἄρχοντες
 καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς καὶ οἱ Λευῖται τὰ ἀλλογενῆ ἔθνη τῆς γῆς καὶ τὰς
 ἀκαθαρσίας αὐτῶν ἀπὸ τῶν ἐθνῶν τῶν Χανααίων, καὶ Χετταίων,
 καὶ Φερεζαίων, καὶ Ἰεβουσαίων, καὶ Μωαβιτῶν, καὶ Αἰγυπτίων,
 70 καὶ Ἰδουμαίων. Συνώκησαν γὰρ μετὰ τῶν θυγατέρων αὐτῶν
 καὶ αὐτοὶ καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπεμίγη τὸ σπέρμα τὸ ἅγιον
 εἰς τὰ ἀλλογενῆ ἔθνη τῆς γῆς, καὶ μετείχον οἱ προηγούμενοι
 καὶ οἱ μεγιστάνες τῆς ἀνομίας ταύτης ἀπὸ τῆς ἀρχῆς τοῦ
 πράγματος.
- 71 Καὶ ἅμα τῷ ἀκούσαί με ταῦτα, διέρρηξα τὰ ἱμάτια καὶ τὴν
 ἱερὰν ἐσθήτα, καὶ κατέτιλα τοῦ τριχώματος τῆς κεφαλῆς καὶ
 72 τοῦ πώγωνος, καὶ ἐκάθισα σύννους καὶ περίλυπος. Καὶ
 ἐπισυνήχθησαν πρὸς μὲ ὅσοι ποτὲ ἐπεκινούντο ἐπὶ τῷ ῥήματι
 Κυρίου Θεοῦ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ἐμοῦ πενθοῦντος ἐπὶ τῇ ἀνομίᾳ· καὶ
 ἐκαθήμην περίλυπος ἕως τῆς δειλινῆς θυσίας.
- 73 Καὶ ἐξεγερθεὶς ἐκ τῆς νηστείας διεῖρρηγμένα ἔχων τὰ ἱμάτια
 καὶ τὴν ἱερὰν ἐσθήτα, κάμψας τὰ γόνατα, καὶ ἐκτείνας τὰς
 74 χεῖρας πρὸς τὸν Κύριον· ἔλεγον, Κύριε, ἥσυχυμαι καὶ ἐντέ-
 75 τραμαι κατὰ πρόσωπόν σου. Αἱ γὰρ ἁμαρτίαι ἡμῶν ἐπλεόνα-
 σαν ὑπὲρ τὰς κεφαλὰς ἡμῶν, καὶ αἱ ἀγνοιαὶ ἡμῶν ὑπερήνεγκαν
 76 ἕως τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, ἔτι ἀπὸ τῶν χρόνων τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, καὶ
 77 ἐσμὲν ἐν μεγάλῃ ἁμαρτίᾳ ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης. Καὶ διὰ
 τὰς ἁμαρτίας ἡμῶν καὶ τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν παρεδόθημεν σὺν
 τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς ἡμῶν, καὶ σὺν τοῖς βασιλεῦσιν ἡμῶν, καὶ σὺν
 τοῖς ἱερεῦσιν ἡμῶν, τοῖς βασιλεῦσι τῆς γῆς εἰς ῥομφαίαν καὶ
 αἰχμαλωσίαν καὶ προνομὴν μετὰ αἰσχύνης μέχρι τῆς σήμερον
 ἡμέρας.
- 78 Καὶ νῦν κατὰ πόσον τι ἐγενήθη ἡμῖν ἔλεος παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου
 Κυρίου, καταλειφθῆναι ἡμῖν ῥίζαν καὶ ὄνομα ἐν τῷ τόπῳ
 79 ἀγιάσματός σου, καὶ τοῦ ἀνακαλύψαι φωστῆρα ἡμῖν ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ
 Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, δοῦναι ἡμῖν τροφήν ἐν τῷ καιρῷ τῆς
 80 δουλείας ἡμῶν; Καὶ ἐν τῷ δουλεύειν ἡμᾶς οὐκ ἐγκατελείφθη-
 81 μεν ὑπὸ τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν, ἀλλὰ ἐποίησεν ἡμᾶς ἐν χάριτι
 ἐνώπιον τῶν βασιλέων Περσῶν, δοῦναι ἡμῖν τροφήν, καὶ
 δοξάσαι τὸ ἱερὸν τοῦ Κυρίου ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐγείραι τὴν ἔρημον
 Σιών, δοῦναι ἡμῖν στερέωμα ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ.
- 82 Καὶ νῦν τί ἐροῦμεν, Κύριε, ἔχοντες ταῦτα; παρέβημεν γὰρ
 τὰ προστάγματά σου, ἃ ἔδωκας ἐν χειρὶ τῶν παίδων σου τῶν
 83 προφητῶν, λέγων, ὅτι ἡ γῆ, εἰς ἣν εἰσέρχεσθε κληρονομήσαι,
 ἔστι γῆ μεμολυσμένη μολυσμῷ τῶν ἀλλογενῶν τῆς γῆς, καὶ
 84 τῆς ἀκαθαρσίας αὐτῶν ἐνέπλησαν αὐτήν. Καὶ νῦν τὰς θυγα-
 85 τέρας ὑμῶν μὴ συνοικήσητε τοῖς υἱοῖς αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰς θυγατέρας
 αὐτῶν μὴ λάβητε τοῖς υἱοῖς ὑμῶν, καὶ οὐ ζητήσετε εἰρηνεῦσαι
 τὰ πρὸς αὐτοὺς τὸν ἅπαντα χρόνον, ἵνα ἰσχύσαντες φάγητε τὰ
 ἀγαθὰ τῆς γῆς, καὶ κατακληρονομήσητε τοῖς τέκνοις ὑμῶν ἕως
 αἰῶνος.
- 86 Καὶ τὰ συμβαίνοντα πάντα ἡμῖν γίνεται διὰ τὰ ἔργα ἡμῶν
 τὰ πονηρὰ, καὶ τὰς μεγάλας ἁμαρτίας ἡμῶν· σὺ γὰρ Κύριε
 87 ὁ κουφίσας τὰς ἁμαρτίας ἡμῶν, ἔδωκας ἡμῖν τοιαύτην ῥίζαν·
 πάλιν ἀνεκάμψαμεν παραβῆναι τὸν νόμον σου εἰς τὸ ἐπιμιγ-

⁶⁸ Now when these things were done, the rulers came unto me, and said, ⁶⁹ The nation of Israel, the princes, the priests and the Levites, have not put away from them the strange people of the land, nor their pollutions from the Gentiles, *to wit*, the Canaanites, Hittites, Pheresites, Jebusites, and the Moabites, Egyptians, and Edomites. ⁷⁰ For both they and their sons have married with their daughters, and the holy seed is mixed with the strange people of the land; and from the beginning of this matter the rulers and the great men have been partakers of this iniquity.

⁷¹ And as soon as I had heard these things, I rent my clothes, and the holy garment, and pulled off the hair from off my head and beard, and sat me down sad and very heavy. ⁷² So all they that were then moved at the word of the Lord God of Israel assembled unto me, whilst I mourned for the iniquity: but I sat still full of heaviness until the evening sacrifice.

⁷³ Then rising up from the fast with my clothes and the holy garment rent, and bowing my knees, and stretching forth my hands unto the Lord, ⁷⁴ I said, O Lord, I am confounded and ashamed before thy face; ⁷⁵ for our sins are multiplied above our heads, and our ignorances have reached up unto heaven. ⁷⁶ For ever since the time of our fathers we *have been* and are in great sin, even unto this day. ⁷⁷ And for our sins and our fathers' we with our brethren and our kings and our priests were given up unto the kings of the earth, to the sword, and to captivity, and for a prey with shame, unto this day.

⁷⁸ And now in some measure hath mercy been shewed unto us from thee, O Lord, that there should be left us a root and a name in the place of thy sanctuary; ⁷⁹ and to discover unto us a light in the house of the Lord our God, and to give us food in the time of our servitude. ⁸⁰ Yea, when we were in bondage, we were not forsaken of our Lord; but he made us favoured before the kings of Persia, so that they gave us food; ⁸¹ yea, and honoured the temple of our Lord, and raised up the desolate Sion, so that they have given us a sure abiding in Jewry and Jerusalem.

⁸² And now, O Lord, what shall we say, having these things? for we have transgressed thy commandments, which thou gavest by the hand of thy servants the prophets, saying, ⁸³ That the land, which ye enter into to possess as an heritage, is a land polluted with the pollutions of the strangers of the land, and they have filled it with their uncleanness. ⁸⁴ Therefore now shall ye not join your daughters unto their sons, neither shall ye take their daughters unto your sons. ⁸⁵ Moreover ye shall never seek to have peace with them, that ye may be strong, and eat the good things of the land, and that ye may leave the inheritance of the land unto your children for evermore.

⁸⁶ And all that is befallen is done unto us for our wicked works and great sins: for thou, O Lord, didst make our sins light, ⁸⁷ and didst give unto us such a root: but we have turned back again to transgress thy law, and to mingle ourselves with the

uncleanness of the nations of the land.
⁸⁸ Mightest not thou be angry with us to destroy us, till thou hadst left us neither root, seed, nor name?

⁸⁹ O Lord of Israel, thou art true: for we are left a root this day. ⁹⁰ Behold, now are we before thee in our iniquities, for we cannot stand any longer by reason of these things before thee. ⁹¹ And as Esdras in his prayer made his confession, weeping, and lying flat upon the ground before the temple, there gathered unto him from Jerusalem a very great multitude of men and women and children: for there was great weeping among the multitude.

⁹² Then Jechonias the son of Jeelus, one of the children of Israel, called out and said, O Esdras, we have sinned against the Lord; we have married strange women of the nations of the land, and now is all Israel aloft. ⁹³ Let us make an oath to the Lord, that we will put away all our wives, which we have taken of the heathen, with their children, ⁹⁴ like as thou hast decreed, and as many as do obey the law of the Lord. ⁹⁵ Arise, and put into execution: for to thee doth this matter appertain, and we will be with thee: do valiantly. ⁹⁶ So Esdras arose, and took an oath of the chief of the priests and Levites of all Israel to do after these things; and so they swore.

Then Esdras rising from the court of the temple went to the chamber of Joanan the son of Eliasib, and remained there, and did eat no meat nor drink water, mourning for the great iniquities of the multitude. ³ And there was a proclamation in all Jewry and Jerusalem to all them that were of the captivity, that they should be gathered together at Jerusalem: ⁴ and that whosoever met not there within two or three days, according as the elders that bare rule appointed, their cattle should be seized to the use of the temple, and himself cast out from them that were of the captivity.

⁵ And in three days were all they of the tribe of Juda and Benjamin gathered together at Jerusalem the twentieth day of the ninth month. ⁶ And all the multitude sat in the broad court of the temple, trembling because of the present foul weather.

⁷ So Esdras arose up, and said unto them, Ye have transgressed the law in marrying strange wives, thereby to increase the sins of Israel. ⁸ And now by confessing give glory unto the Lord God of our fathers, ⁹ and do his will, and separate yourselves from the heathen of the land, and from the strange women.

¹⁰ Then cried the whole multitude, and said with a loud voice, Like as thou hast spoken, so will we do. ¹¹ But forasmuch as the people are many, and it is foul weather, so that we cannot stand without, and this is not a work of a day or two, seeing our sin in these things is spread far: ¹² therefore let the rulers of the multitude stay, and let all them of our habitations that have strange wives come at the time appointed, ¹³ and with them the rulers and judges of every place, till we turn away the wrath of the Lord from us for this matter.

¹⁴ Then Jonathan the son of Azazel and Ezechias the son of Theocanus accordingly

ναι τῇ ἀκαθαρσίᾳ τῶν ἐθνῶν τῆς γῆς. Οὐχὶ ὀργίσθης ἡμῖν 88 ἀπολέσαι ἡμᾶς, ἕως τοῦ μὴ καταλιπεῖν ῥίζαν καὶ σπέρμα καὶ ὄνομα ἡμῶν;

Κύριε τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ἀληθινὸς εἶ· κατελείφθημεν γὰρ ῥίζα 89 ἐν τῇ σήμερον. Ἰδοὺ νῦν ἐσμέν ἐνώπιόν σου ἐν ταῖς ἀνομίαις 90 ἡμῶν· οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶ στήναι ἔτι ἔμπροσθέν σου ἐπὶ τούτοις. Καὶ ὅτε προσευχόμενος Ἐσδρας ἀνθωμολογεῖτο κλαίων χαμαι- 91 πετῆς ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ ἱεροῦ, ἐπισυνήχθησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλὴμ ὄχλος πολὺς σφόδρα, ἄνδρες, καὶ γυναῖκες, καὶ νεανῖαι· κλαυθμὸς γὰρ ἦν μέγας ἐν τῷ πλήθει.

Καὶ φωνήσας Ἰεχονίας Ἰεήλου τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ, εἶπεν, 92 Ἐσδρα, ἡμεῖς ἡμάρτομεν εἰς τὸν Κύριον· συνωκίσσαμεν γυναῖ- κας ἀλλογενεῖς ἐκ τῶν ἐθνῶν τῆς γῆς· καὶ νῦν ἐστὶν ἐπάνω πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ. Ἐν τούτῳ γινέσθω ἡμῖν ὀρκωμοσία πρὸς τὸν 93 Κύριον, ἐκβαλεῖν πάσας τὰς γυναῖκας ἡμῶν τὰς ἐκ τῶν ἀλλο- γενῶν σὺν τοῖς τέκνοις αὐτῶν, ὡς ἐκρίθη σοι, καὶ ὅσοι πειθ- 94 ἀρχοῦσι τοῦ νόμου Κυρίου. Ἀναστὰς ἐπιτέλει· πρὸς σέ 95 γὰρ τὸ πρᾶγμα, καὶ ἡμεῖς μετὰ σοῦ ἰσχύον ποιεῖν. Καὶ 96 ἀναστὰς Ἐσδρας ὥρκισε τοὺς φυλάρχους τῶν ἱερέων καὶ Λευιτῶν παντὸς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ποιῆσαι κατὰ ταῦτα· καὶ ὤμοσαν.

Καὶ ἀναστὰς Ἐσδρας ἀπὸ τῆς αὐλῆς τοῦ ἱεροῦ, ἐπορεύθη 9 εἰς τὸ παστοφόριον Ἰωνὰν τοῦ Ἐλιασίβου. Καὶ αὐλισθεῖς 2 ἐκεῖ, ἄρτου οὐκ ἐγεύσατο οὐδὲ ὕδωρ ἐπῖε, πενθῶν ἐπὶ τῶν ἀνομιῶν τῶν μεγάλων τοῦ πλήθους. Καὶ ἐγένετο κήρυγμα ἐν 3 ὅλῃ τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλω- σίας, συναχθῆναι εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Καὶ ὅσοι ἂν μὴ ἀπαντήσω- 4 σιν ἐν δυσὶν ἢ τρισὶν ἡμέραις, κατὰ τὸ κρίμα τῶν προκαθημέ- νων πρεσβυτέρων, ἀνιερωθήσονται τὰ κτήνη αὐτῶν, καὶ αὐτὸς ἀλλοτριωθήσεται ἀπὸ τοῦ πλήθους τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας.

Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν πάντες οἱ ἐκ τῆς φυλῆς Ἰούδα καὶ 5 Βενιαμὴν ἐν τρισὶν ἡμέραις εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ· οὗτος ὁ μὴν ἔννατος, τῇ εἰκάδι τοῦ μηνός. Καὶ συνεκάθισαν πᾶν τὸ 6 πλῆθος ἐν τῷ εὐρυχώρῳ τοῦ ἱεροῦ, τρέμοντες διὰ τὸν ἐνεστῶτα χειμῶνα.

Καὶ ἀναστὰς Ἐσδρας εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, ὑμεῖς ἡνομήσατε καὶ 7 συνωκίσατε γυναῖξιν ἀλλογενέσι, τοῦ προσθεῖναι ἁμαρτίας τῷ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ νῦν δότε ὁμολογίαν δόξαν τῷ Κυρίῳ Θεῷ 8 τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, καὶ ποιήσατε τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ, καὶ 9 χωρίσθητε ἀπὸ τῶν ἐθνῶν τῆς γῆς, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν γυναικῶν τῶν ἀλλογενῶν.

Καὶ ἐφώνησεν ἅπαν τὸ πλῆθος, καὶ εἶπον μεγάλη τῇ 10 φωνῇ, οὕτως ὡς ἔρηκας, ποιήσομεν. Ἀλλὰ τὸ πλῆθος πολὺ 11 καὶ ὥρα χειμερινή, καὶ οὐκ ἰσχύομεν στήναι αἰθριοι· καὶ τὸ ἔργον οὐκ ἔστιν ἡμῖν ἡμέρας μιᾶς οὐδὲ δύο, ἐπὶ πλεῖον γὰρ ἡμάρτομεν ἐν τούτοις. Στήτωσαν δὲ οἱ προηγούμενοι τοῦ 12 πλήθους, καὶ πάντες οἱ ἐκ τῶν κατοικιῶν ἡμῶν ὅσοι ἔχουσι γυναῖκας ἀλλογενεῖς, παραγεννηθήτωσαν λαβόντες χρόνον, ἐκάστου δὲ τόπου τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους καὶ τοὺς κριτὰς, ἕως 13 τοῦ λῦσαι τὴν ὀργὴν Κυρίου ἀφ' ἡμῶν τοῦ πράγματος τούτου.

Ἰωνάθας Ἀζαήλου, καὶ Ἐζεκίας Θεωκανοῦ ἐπεδέξαντο κατὰ 14

ταῦτα· καὶ Μοσόλλαμος, καὶ Λευὶς, καὶ Σαββαταῖος συν-
 15 ἐβράβευσαν αὐτοῖς. Καὶ ἐποίησαν κατὰ πάντα ταῦτα οἱ ἐκ
 16 τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας· καὶ ἐπέλεξατο αὐτῷ Ἐσδρας ὁ ἱερεὺς
 ἄνδρας ἡγουμένους τῶν πατριῶν αὐτῶν πάντας κατ' ὄνομα, καὶ
 συνεκλείσθησαν τῇ νουμηνίᾳ τοῦ μηνὸς τοῦ δεκάτου, ἐτάσαι
 17 τὸ πρᾶγμα. Καὶ ἤχθη ἐπὶ πέρας τὰ κατὰ τοὺς ἄνδρας τοὺς
 ἐπισυνέχοντας γυναῖκας ἄλλογενεῖς, ἕως τῆς νουμηνίας τοῦ
 πρώτου μηνός.

18 Καὶ εὐρέθησαν τῶν ἱερέων οἱ ἐπισυναχθέντες ἄλλογενεῖς
 19 γυναῖκας ἔχοντες, ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἰησοῦ τοῦ Ἰωσεδέκ, καὶ τῶν
 ἀδελφῶν αὐτοῦ, Μαθήλας, καὶ Ἐλεάζαρος, καὶ Ἰόριβος, καὶ
 20 Ἰωαδάνος. Καὶ ἐπέβαλον τὰς χεῖρας ἐκβαλεῖν τὰς γυναῖκας
 αὐτῶν· καὶ εἰς ἐξίλασμον κριοὺς ὑπὲρ τῆς ἀγνοίας αὐτῶν.

21 Καὶ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἐμμήρ, Ἀνανίας, καὶ Ζαβδαῖος, καὶ Μάνης,
 22 καὶ Σαμαῖος, καὶ Ἱερεὴλ, καὶ Ἀζαρίας· καὶ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν
 Φαισοῦρ, Ἐλιωναῖς, Μασσίας, Ἰσμαῆλος, καὶ Ναθαναῆλος,
 καὶ Ὁκόδηλος, καὶ Σαλόας.

23 Καὶ ἐκ τῶν Λευιτῶν, Ἰωζαβάδος, καὶ Σεμεῖς, καὶ Κώϊος
 (οὗτός ἐστι Καλιτὰς), καὶ Παθαῖος, καὶ Ἰούδας, καὶ Ἰωνάς.

24, 25 Ἐκ τῶν ἱεροψαλτῶν, Ἐλιάσαβος, Βακχοῦρος. Ἐκ τῶν
 θυρωρῶν, Σαλοῦμος, καὶ Τολβάνης.

26 Ἐκ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Φόρος, Ἱερμὰς, καὶ Ἰεζίας,
 καὶ Μελχίας, καὶ Μαῆλος, καὶ Ἐλεάζαρος, καὶ Ἀσεβίας, καὶ

27 Βαναίας. Ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἥλᾶ, Ματθανίας, Ζαχαρίας, καὶ
 28 Ἰεζριήλος, καὶ Ἰωαβδῖος, καὶ Ἱερεμῶθ, καὶ Αἰδίας. Καὶ ἐκ

τῶν υἱῶν Ζαμῶθ, Ἐλιαδάς, Ἐλιάσιμος, Ὀθονίας, Ἰαριμῶθ,
 29 καὶ Σάβαθος, καὶ Ζεραλίας. Καὶ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Βηβαῖ, Ἰωάν-

30 νης, καὶ Ἀνανίας, καὶ Ἰωζάβδος, καὶ Ἀμαθίας. Ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν
 Μανὶ, Ὀλαμὸς, Μαμουῦχος, Ἰεδαῖος, Ἰασούβος, καὶ Ἰασαῆλος,

31 καὶ Ἱερεμῶθ. Καὶ ἐξ υἱῶν Ἀδδὶ, Νάαθος, καὶ Μοοσίας,
 Λακκοῦνος, καὶ Ναῖδος, Ματθανίας, καὶ Σεσθήλ, καὶ Βαλνούος,

32 καὶ Μανασσίας. Καὶ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἀνὰν, Ἐλιωνὰς, καὶ Ἀσαΐας,
 33 καὶ Μελχίας, καὶ Σαββαῖος, καὶ Σίμων Χοσαμαῖος. Καὶ ἐκ

τῶν υἱῶν Ἀσὸμ, Ἀλταναῖος, καὶ Ματταθίας, καὶ Σαβανναῖος,
 34 καὶ Ἐλιφαλάτ, καὶ Μανασσῆς, καὶ Σεμεῖ. Καὶ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν

Βαανὶ, Ἱερεμίας, Μομδῖος, Ἰσμαῆρος, Ἰουήλ, Μαβδαῖ, καὶ
 Πεδίας, καὶ Ἄνω, Ῥαβασίων, καὶ Ἐνάσιβος, καὶ Μαμνιτά-

35 ναιμος, Ἐλιάσις, Βαννοὺς, Ἐλιαλὶ, Σομεῖς, Σελεμίας, Ναθα-
 νίας· καὶ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἐζωρὰ, Σεσίς, Ἐσρίλ, Ἀζαῆλος,

36 Σαματὸς, Ζαμβρί, Ἰώσηφος. Καὶ ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Ἐθμὰ, Μαζί-
 τίας, Ζαβαδαῖας, Ἡδαῖς, Ἰουήλ, Βαναίας.

37 Πάντες οὗτοι συνήκισαν γυναῖκας ἄλλογενεῖς, καὶ ἀπέλυσαν
 αὐτὰς σὺν τέκνοις.

38 Καὶ κατώκησαν οἱ ἱερεῖς, καὶ οἱ Λευῖται, καὶ οἱ ἐκ τοῦ Ἰσ-
 39 ραὴλ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ τῇ νουμηνίᾳ τοῦ μηνός
 τοῦ ἐβδόμου, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἐν ταῖς κατοικίαις αὐτῶν.

38 Καὶ συνήχθη πᾶν τὸ πλῆθος ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπὶ τὸ εὐρύχωρον
 39 τοῦ πρὸς ἀνατολὰς τοῦ ἱεροῦ πυλῶνος, καὶ εἶπεν Ἐσδρα τῷ

ἱερεῖ καὶ ἀναγνώστῃ, κόμισαι τὸν νόμον Μωυσῆ, τὸν παρα-
 40 δοθέντα ὑπὸ Κυρίου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ ἐκόμισεν Ἐσδρας

ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς τὸν νόμον παντὶ τῷ πλήθει ἀπὸ ἀνθρώπου ἕως
 γυναικὸς, καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἱερεῦσιν, ἀκοῦσαι τοῦ νόμου νουμηνίᾳ

took this matter upon them: and Mosollam and Levis and Sabbatheus helped them.
 15 And they that were of the captivity did according to all these things. 16 And Esdras the priest chose unto him the principal men of their families, all by name: and in the first day of the tenth month they sat together to examine the matter. 17 So their cause that held strange wives was brought to an end in the first day of the first month.

18 And of the priests that were come together, and had strange wives, there were found; 19 of the sons of Jesus the son of Josedec, and his brethren; Mattheas, and Eleazar, and Joribus, and Joadanus. 20 And they gave their hands to put away their wives, and to offer rams to make reconciliation for their errors.

21 And of the sons of Emmer: Ananias, and Zabdeus, and Manes, and Samæus, and Hiereel, and Azarias. 22 And of the sons of Phaisur; Elionais, Massias, Ismael, and Nathanael, and Ocodeus, and Saloas.

23 And of the Levites; Jozabad, and Semis, and Coius, who was called Calitas, and Patheus, and Judas, and Jonas. 24 Of the holy singers: Eleasabus, Bacchurus. 25 Of the porters; Salumus, and Tolbanes.

26 Of them of Israel, of the sons of Phoros; Hiermas, and Jezias, and Melchias, and Maelus, and Eleazar, and Asebias, and Banæas.

27 Of the sons of Ela; Matthanias, Zacharias, and Jezrielus, and Joabdius, and Hieremoth, and Aïdias.

28 And of the sons of Zamoth; Eliadas, Eliasimus, Othonias, Jarimoth, and Sabatus, and Zeralias.

29 Of the sons of Bebai; Joannes, and Ananias, and Josabad, and Amatheis.

30 Of the sons of Mani; Olamus, Mamuchus, Jedeus, Jasubus, Jasael, and Hieremoth.

31 And of the sons of Addi; Naathus, and Moosias, Lacunus, and Naidus, Matthanias, and Sesthel, Balnuus, and Manasseas.

32 And of the sons of Annas; Elionas, and Asaïas, and Melchias, and Sabbeus, and Simon Chosameus.

33 And of the sons of Asom; Altaneus, and Mattathias, and Sabanneus, Eliphalt, and Manasses, and Semei.

34 And of the sons of Baani: Jeremias, Momdis, Ismaerus, Juel, Mabdai, and Pedias, and Anos, Rabasion, and Enasibus, and Mamnitanaïmus, Eliasis, Bannus, Eliali, Samis, Selemias, Nathanias: and of the sons of Ezora; Sesis, Esril, Azaelus, Samatus, Zambri, Josephus.

35 And of the sons of Ethma; Mazitias, Zabadaïas, Edaïs, Juel, Banaïas.

36 All these had taken strange wives, and they put them away with their children.

37 And the priests and Levites, and they that were of Israel, dwelt in Jerusalem, and in the country, in the first day of the seventh month: so the children of Israel were in their habitations.

38 And the whole multitude came together with one accord into the broad place of the holy porch toward the east: 39 and they spake unto Esdras the priest and reader, that he would bring the law of Moses, that was given of the Lord God of Israel. 40 So Esdras the chief priest brought the law to the whole multitude from man to woman, and to all the priests, to hear the law in the

first day of the seventh month. ⁴¹And he read in the broad court before the holy porch from morning unto midday, before both men and women; and all the multitude gave heed unto the law.

⁴²And Esdras the priest and reader of the law stood up upon a pulpit of wood which was made for that purpose. ⁴³And there stood up by him Mattathias, Samimus, Ananias, Azarias, Urias, Ezecias, Baalsamus, upon the right hand: ⁴⁴and upon his left hand Phaldaius, and Misael, Melchias, Lothasubus, Nabarias, Zacharias.

⁴⁵Then took Esdras the book of the law before the multitude: for he sat honourably in the first place in the sight of them all. ⁴⁶And when he opened the law, they stood all straight up. So Esdras blessed the Lord God most High, the God of hosts, Almighty. ⁴⁷And all the people answered, Amen; and lifting up their hands they fell to the ground, and worshipped the Lord.

⁴⁸Also Jesus, Anniuth, Sarabias, Adinus, Jacobus, Sabateas, Auteas, Maiannas, and Calitas, Azarias, and Joazabds, and Ananias, Phalias, the Levites, taught the law of the Lord, and read the law of the Lord to the multitude, making them withal to understand it.

⁴⁹Then spake Attharates unto Esdras the chief priest and reader, and to the Levites that taught the multitude, even to all, saying, ⁵⁰This day is holy unto the Lord; (for they all wept when they heard the law:) ⁵¹go then, and eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send part to them that have nothing: ⁵²for this day is holy unto the Lord: and be not sorrowful; for the Lord will bring you to honour.

⁵³So the Levites published all things to the people, saying, This day is holy to the Lord; be not sorrowful. ⁵⁴Then went they their way, every one to eat and drink and make merry, and to give part to them that had nothing, and to make great cheer; ⁵⁵because they understood the words wherein they were instructed, and for the which they had been assembled.

τοῦ ἐβδόμου μηνός. Καὶ ἀνεγίνωσκειν ἐν τῷ πρὸ τοῦ ἱεροῦ 41
πυλῶνος εὐρυχώρῳ, ἐξ ὄρθρου ἕως μέσης ἡμέρας, ἐνώπιον ἀν-
δρῶν τε καὶ γυναικῶν· καὶ ἐπέδωκαν πᾶν τὸ πλῆθος τὸν νοῦν
εἰς τὸν νόμον.

Καὶ ἔστη Ἐσδρας ὁ ἱερεὺς καὶ ἀναγνώστης τοῦ νόμου ἐπὶ 42
τοῦ ξυλίνου βήματος τοῦ κατασκευασθέντος. Καὶ ἔστησαν 43
παρ' αὐτῷ Ματθαθίας, Σαμμοὺς, Ἀνανίας, Ἀζαρίας, Οὐρίας,
Ἐζεκίας, Βαάλσαμος, ἐκ δεξιῶν· καὶ ἐξ εὐωνύμων Φαλδαῖος, 44
καὶ Μισαήλ, Μελχίας, Λωθάσουβος, Ναβαρίας, Ζαχαρίας.

Καὶ ἀναλαβὼν Ἐσδρας τὸ βιβλίον ἐνώπιον τοῦ πλῆθους, 45
προεκάθητο ἐπιδόξως ἐνώπιον πάντων. Καὶ ἐν τῷ λῦσαι τὸν 46
νόμον, πάντες ὀρθοὶ ἔστησαν· καὶ εὐλόγησεν Ἐσδρας τῷ
Κυρίῳ Θεῷ ὑψίστῳ Θεῷ σαβαὼθ παντοκράτορι. Καὶ ἔπε- 47
φώνησε πᾶν τὸ πλῆθος, ἀμήν· καὶ ἄραντες ἄνω τὰς χεῖρας,
προσπεσόντες ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, προσεκύνησαν τῷ Κυρίῳ.

Ἰησοῦς, καὶ Ἀννιούθ, καὶ Σαραβίας, καὶ Ἰαδινός, καὶ Ἰά- 48
κουβος, Σαβαταῖος, Αὐταίας, Μαιάννας, καὶ Καλίτας, Ἀζαρίας,
καὶ Ἰώζαβδος, καὶ Ἀνανίας, Φαλίας, οἱ Λευῖται, ἐδίδασκον
τὸν νόμον τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ πρὸς τὸ πλῆθος ἀνεγίνωσκον τὸν
νόμον τοῦ Κυρίου, ἐμφυσιοῦντες ἅμα τὴν ἀνάγνωσιν.

Καὶ εἶπεν Ἀτθαράτης Ἐσδρα τῷ ἀρχιερεῖ καὶ ἀναγνώστῃ, 49
καὶ τοῖς Λευίταις τοῖς διδάσκουσι τὸ πλῆθος ἐπὶ πάντας, ἡ 50
ἡμέρα αὕτη ἐστὶν ἁγία τῷ Κυρίῳ· καὶ πάντες ἔκλαιον ἐν τῷ
ἀκοῦσαι τοῦ νόμου· βαδίσαντες οὖν φάγετε λιπάσματα, καὶ 51
πίετε γλυκάσματα, καὶ ἀποστείλατε ἀποστολὰς τοῖς μὴ ἔχου-
σιν· ἁγία γὰρ ἡ ἡμέρα τῷ Κυρίῳ· καὶ μὴ λυπεῖσθε, ὁ γὰρ 52
Κύριος δοξάσει ὑμᾶς.

Καὶ οἱ Λευῖται ἐκέλευον παντὶ τῷ δήμῳ, λέγοντες, ἡ ἡμέρα 53
αὕτη ἁγία, μὴ λυπεῖσθε. Καὶ ὥχοντο πάντες φαγεῖν καὶ πιεῖν 54
καὶ εὐφραίνεισθαι, καὶ δοῦναι ἀποστολὰς τοῖς μὴ ἔχουσι, καὶ
εὐφρανθῆναι μεγάλως, ὅτι γὰρ ἐνεφυσιώθησαν ἐν τοῖς ῥήμασιν 55
οἷς ἐδιδάχθησαν, καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν.

T O B I T.

- BIBΛΟΣ λόγων Τωβίτ, τοῦ Τωβιήλ, τοῦ Ἀνανιήλ, τοῦ Ἀδουήλ, τοῦ Γαβαήλ, ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος Ἀσιήλ, ἐκ τῆς φυλῆς
- 2 Νεφθαλὶ, ὃς ἡχμαλωτεύθη ἐν ἡμέραις Ἐνεμεσσάρου τοῦ βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων ἐκ Οἰσβης, ἣ ἔστιν ἐκ δεξιῶν κυδίως τῆς Νεφθαλὶ ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ ὑπεράνω Ἀσέρ.
- 3 Ἐγὼ Τωβίτ ὁδοῖς ἀληθείας ἐπορευόμην καὶ δικαιοσύνης πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας τῆς ζωῆς μου· καὶ ἐλεημοσύνας πολλὰς ἐποίησα τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς μου, καὶ τῷ ἔθνει, τοῖς προπορευθεῖσι
- 4 μετ' ἐμοῦ εἰς χώραν Ἀσσυρίων εἰς Νινευή. Καὶ ὅτι ἤμην ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ μου ἐν τῇ γῇ Ἰσραὴλ, νεωτέρου μου ὄντος, πᾶσα φυλὴ τοῦ Νεφθαλὶ τοῦ πατρός μου ἀπέστη ἀπὸ τοῦ οἴκου Ἱεροσολύμων, τῆς ἐκλεγείσης ἀπὸ πασῶν τῶν φυλῶν Ἰσραὴλ, εἰς τὸ θυσιάζειν πάσας τὰς φυλάς· καὶ ἡγιάσθη ὁ ναὸς τῆς κατασκηνώσεως τοῦ ὑψίστου, καὶ ὠκοδομήθη εἰς πάσας τὰς γενεὰς τοῦ αἰῶνος.
- 5 Καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ φυλαὶ αἱ συναποστᾶσαι ἔθνον τῇ Βάαλ τῇ
- 6 δαμάλει, καὶ ὁ οἶκος Νεφθαλὶ τοῦ πατρός μου. Καὶ γὰρ μόνος ἐπορευόμην πλεονάκις εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα ἐν ταῖς ἑορταῖς, καθὼς γέγραπται παντὶ τῷ Ἰσραὴλ, ἐν προστάγματι αἰωνίῳ, τὰς ἀπαρχὰς, καὶ τὰς δεκάτας τῶν γεννημάτων, καὶ τὰς πρωτοκουρίας ἔχων, καὶ ἐδίδουν αὐτὰς τοῖς ἱερεῦσι τοῖς υἱοῖς Ἀαρὼν
- 7 πρὸς τὸ θυσιαστήριον πάντων τῶν γεννημάτων. Τὴν δεκάτην ἐδίδουν τοῖς υἱοῖς Λευὶ τοῖς θεραπεύουσιν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ τὴν δευτέραν δεκάτην ἀπεπρατιζόμην, καὶ ἐπορευόμην καὶ
- 8 ἐδαπάνων αὐτὰ ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις καθ' ἕκαστον ἐνιαυτὸν, καὶ τὴν τρίτην ἐδίδουν οἷς καθήκει, καθὼς ἐνετείλατο Δεββωρὰ ἡ μήτηρ τοῦ πατρός μου, διότι ὀρφανὸς κατελείφθην ὑπὸ τοῦ πατρός μου.
- 9 Καὶ ὅτε ἐγενόμην ἀνὴρ, ἔλαβον Ἀνναν γυναῖκα ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος τῆς πατρίδος ἡμῶν· καὶ ἐγέννησα ἐξ αὐτῆς Τωβίαν.
- 10 Καὶ ὅτε ἡχμαλωτίσθημεν εἰς Νινευή, πάντες οἱ ἀδελφοί μου, καὶ οἱ ἐκ τοῦ γένους μου ἡσθιον ἐκ τῶν ἄρτων τῶν ἐθνῶν.
- 11, 12 Ἐγὼ δὲ συνετήρησα τὴν ψυχὴν μου μὴ φαγεῖν, καθότι
- 13 ἐμνήμην τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ ψυχῇ μου. Καὶ ἔδωκεν ὁ ὑψίστος χάριν καὶ μορφὴν ἐνώπιον Ἐνεμεσσάρου, καὶ ἤμην αὐτοῦ ἀγοραστής.
- 14 Καὶ ἐπορευόμην εἰς τὴν Μηδίαν, καὶ παρεθέμην Γαβαήλῳ τῷ ἀδελφῷ Γαβρίᾳ ἐν Ράγοις τῆς Μηδίας, ἀργυρίου τάλαντα
- 15 δέκα. Καὶ ὅτε ἀπέθανεν Ἐνεμεσσάρ, ἐβασίλευσε Σενναχηρίμ ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ἀντ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ αἱ ὁδοὶ αὐτοῦ ἡκαταστάθησαν, καὶ οὐκ ἔτι ἠδυνάσθη πορευθῆναι εἰς τὴν Μηδίαν.

THE book of the words of Tobit, the son of Tobiel, the son of Ananiel, the son of Aduel, the son of Gabael, of the seed of Asael, of the tribe of Nephthali; ² who in the time of Enemessar king of the Assyrians was led captive out of Thisbe, which is at the right hand of that city, which is called properly Nephthali in Galilee above Aser.

³ I Tobit have walked all the days of my life in the way of truth and justice, and I did many alms-deeds to my brethren, and my nation, who came with me to Nineve, into the land of the Assyrians. ⁴ And when I was in mine own country, in the land of Israel, being but young, all the tribe of Nephthali my father fell from the house of Jerusalem, which was chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, that all the tribes should sacrifice there, and where the temple of the habitation of the most High was consecrated and built for all ages.

⁵ Now all the tribes which together revolted, and the house of my father Nephthali, sacrificed unto the heifer Baal. ⁶ But I alone went often to Jerusalem at the feasts, as it was ordained unto all the people of Israel by an everlasting decree, having the first-fruits and tenths of increase, with that which was first shorn; and them gave I at the altar to the priests the children of Aaron. ⁷ The first tenth part of all increase I gave to the sons of Aaron, who ministered at Jerusalem: another tenth part I sold away, and went, and spent it every year at Jerusalem: ⁸ and the third I gave unto them to whom it was meet, as Debora my father's mother had commanded me, because I was left an orphan by my father.

⁹ Furthermore, when I was come to the age of a man, I married Anna of mine own kindred, and of her I begat Tobias. ¹⁰ And when we were carried away captives to Nineve, all my brethren and those that were of my kindred did eat of the bread of the Gentiles. ¹¹ But I kept myself from eating; ¹² because I remembered God with all my heart. ¹³ And the most High gave me grace and favour before Enemessar, so that I was his purveyor.

¹⁴ And I went into Media, and left in trust with Gabael, the brother of Gabrias, at Rages a city of Media, ten talents of silver. ¹⁵ Now when Enemessar was dead, Sennacherib his son reigned in his stead; whose estate was troubled, that I could not go into Media.

¹⁶ And in the time of Enemessar I gave many alms to my brethren, and gave my bread to the hungry, ¹⁷ and my clothes to the naked: and if I saw any of my nation dead, or cast about the walls of Nineve, I buried him. ¹⁸ And if the king Sennacherib had slain any, when he was come, and fled from Judea, I buried them privily; for in his wrath he killed many; but the bodies were not found, when they were sought for of the king.

¹⁹ And when one of the Ninevites went and complained of me to the king, that I buried them, and hid myself; understanding that I was sought for to be put to death, I withdrew myself for fear. ²⁰ Then all my goods were forcibly taken away, neither was there any thing left me, beside my wife Anna and my son Tobias. ²¹ And there passed not fifty days, before two of his sons killed him, and they fled into the mountains of Ararath; and Sarchedonus his son reigned in his stead; who appointed over his father's accounts, and over all his affairs, Achiacharus my brother Anael's son.

²² And Achiacharus intreating for me, I returned to Nineve. Now Achiacharus was cupbearer, and keeper of the signet, and steward, and overseer of the accounts: and Sarchedonus appointed him next unto him: and he was my brother's son.

Now when I was come home again, and my wife Anna was restored unto me, with my son Tobias, in the feast of Pentecost, which is the holy feast of the seven weeks, there was a good dinner prepared me; and I sat down to eat. ² And when I saw abundance of meat, I said to my son, Go and bring what poor man soever thou shalt find out of our brethren, who is mindful of the Lord; and, lo, I tarry for thee.

³ But he came again, and said, Father, one of our nation is strangled, and is cast out in the marketplace. ⁴ Then before I had tasted any meat, I started up, and took him up into a room until the going down of the sun. ⁵ Then I returned, and washed myself, and ate my meat in heaviness, ⁶ remembering that prophecy of Amos, as he said, Your feasts shall be turned into mourning, and all your mirth into lamentation. ⁷ Therefore I wept: and after the going down of the sun I went and made a grave, and buried him. ⁸ But my neighbours mocked me, and said, This man is not yet afraid to be put to death for this matter: who fled away; and yet, lo, he burieth the dead again.

⁹ The same night also I returned from the burial, and slept by the wall of my courtyard, being polluted, and my face was uncovered: ¹⁰ and I knew not that there were sparrows in the wall, and mine eyes being open, the sparrows muted warm dung into mine eyes, and a whiteness came in mine eyes; and I went to the physicians, but they helped me not: moreover Achiacharus did nourish me, until I went into Elymais.

¹¹ And my wife Anna did take women's works to do. ¹² And when she had sent them home to the owners, they paid her wages, giving her also besides a kid. ¹³ And when it was in my house, and began to cry, I said unto her, From whence is this kid? is it not stolen? render it to the owners; for it is not lawful to eat any thing that is stolen.

Καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις Ἐνεμεσσάρου ἐλεημοσύνας πολλὰς ¹⁶ ἐποίουν τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς μου· τοὺς ἄρτους μου ἐδίδουν τοῖς πεινῶσι, καὶ ἱμάτια τοῖς γυμνοῖς· καὶ εἴ τινα ἐκ τοῦ γένους μου ¹⁷ ἐθεώρουν τεθνηκότα καὶ ἐρρίμμενον ὀπίσω τοῦ τείχους Νινευῆ, ἔθαπτον αὐτόν. Καὶ εἴ τινα ἀπέκτεινε Σενναχηρίμ ὁ βασι- ¹⁸ λεὺς, ὅτε ἦλθε φεύγων ἐκ τῆς Ἰουδαίας, ἔθαψα αὐτοὺς κλέπτων· πολλοὺς γὰρ ἀπέκτεινεν ἐν τῷ θυμῷ αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐξητήθη ὑπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως τὰ σώματα, καὶ οὐχ εὗρέθη.

Πορευθεὶς δὲ εἰς τῶν ἐν Νινευῇ, ὑπέδειξε τῷ βασιλεῖ περὶ ¹⁹ ἐμοῦ ὅτι θάπτω αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐκρύβην· ἐπιγνοὺς δὲ ὅτι ζητοῦμαι ἀποθανεῖν, φοβηθεὶς ἀνεχώρησα. Καὶ διηρπάγη πάντα τὰ ²⁰ ὑπάρχοντά μου, καὶ οὐ κατελείφθη μοι οὐδέν, πλὴν Ἄννας τῆς γυναικός μου, καὶ Τωβίου τοῦ υἱοῦ μου. Καὶ οὐ διήλθον ²¹ ἡμέρας πενήκοντα, ἕως οὐ ἀπέκτειναν αὐτὸν οἱ δύο υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς τὰ ὄρη Ἀραράθ· καὶ ἐβασίλευσε Σαχερδονὸς υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ἀντ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔταξεν Ἀχιάχαρον τὸν Ἀναήλ υἱὸν τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ μου ἐπὶ πᾶσαν τὴν ἐκλογιστίαν τῆς βασιλείας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπὶ πᾶσαν τὴν διοίκησιν.

Καὶ ἠξίωσεν Ἀχιάχαρος περὶ ἐμοῦ, καὶ ἦλθον εἰς Νινευῇ. ²² Ἀχιάχαρος δὲ ἦν ὁ οἰνοχόος, καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ δακτυλίου, καὶ διοικητῆς, καὶ ἐκλογιστῆς, καὶ κατέστησεν αὐτὸν ὁ Σαχερδονὸς ἐκ δευτέρας, ἦν δὲ ἐξ ἀδελφός μου.

Ὅτε δὲ κατήλθον εἰς τὸν οἶκόν μου, καὶ ἀπεδόθη μοι Ἄννα ² ἡ γυνὴ μου, καὶ Τωβίας ὁ υἱός μου, ἐν τῇ πεντηκοστῇ ἑορτῇ, ἣν ἐστὶν ἀγία ἐπτὰ ἐβδομάδων, ἐγενήθη ἄριστον καλὸν μοι, καὶ ἀνέπεσα τοῦ φαγεῖν. Καὶ ἐθεασάμην ὄψα πολλὰ, καὶ ² εἶπα τῷ υἱῷ μου, βάδισον καὶ ἄγαγε ὃν ἂν εὕρῃς τῶν ἀδελφῶν ἡμῶν ἐνδεῇ, ὃς μέμνηται τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ ἰδοὺ μένω σε.

Καὶ ἐλθὼν εἶπε, πάτερ, εἰς ἐκ τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν ἐστραγγαλω- ³ μένος ἔρριπται ἐν τῇ ἀγορᾷ. Καὶ γὰρ πρὶν ἡ γενέσασθαι με, ⁴ ἀναπηδήσας ἀνελόμην αὐτὸν εἰς τι οἶκημα ἕως οὐ ἔδυν ὁ ἥλιος. Καὶ ἐπιστρέψας ἐλουσάμην, καὶ ἡσθιον τὸν ἄρτον μου ἐν ⁵ λύπῃ. Καὶ ἐμνήσθην τῆς προφητείας Ἀμὼς, καθὼς εἶπε, ⁶ στραφῆσονται αἱ ἐορταὶ ὑμῶν εἰς πένθος, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ εὐφροσύναι ὑμῶν εἰς θρήνον. Καὶ ἔκλανσα· καὶ ὅτε ἔδυν ὁ ἥλιος, ⁷ ὥχόμην, καὶ ὀρύξας ἔθαψα αὐτόν. Καὶ οἱ πλησίον ἐπε- ⁸ γέλων, λέγοντες, οὐκ ἔτι φοβεῖται φονευθῆναι περὶ τοῦ πράγματος τούτου, καὶ ἀπέδρα, καὶ ἰδοὺ πάλιν θάπτει τοὺς νεκρούς.

Καὶ ἐν αὐτῇ τῇ νυκτὶ ἀνέλυσα θάψας, καὶ ἐκοιμήθην μεμιαμ- ⁹ μένος παρὰ τὸν τοῖχον τῆς αὐλῆς, καὶ τὸ πρόσωπόν μου ἀκάλυπτον ἦν. Καὶ οὐκ ᾔδειν ὅτι στρουθία ἐν τῷ τοίχῳ ἐστί· ¹⁰ καὶ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν μου ἀνεωγόντων, ἀφώδενσαν τὰ στρουθία θερμὸν εἰς τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς μου, καὶ ἐγενήθη λευκώματα ἐν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς μου, καὶ ἐπορεύθην πρὸς ἰατροὺς, καὶ οὐκ ὠφέλησάν με· Ἀχιάχαρος δὲ ἔτρεφέ με ἕως οὐ ἐπορεύθην εἰς τὴν Ἐλυμαῖδα.

Καὶ ἡ γυνὴ μου Ἄννα ἠριθεύετο ἐν τοῖς γυναικείοις, καὶ ¹¹ ἀπέστελλε τοῖς κυρίοις. Καὶ ἀπέδωκαν αὐτῇ καὶ αὐτοὶ τὸν ¹² μισθὸν, προσδόντες καὶ ἔριφον. Ὅτε δὲ ἦλθε πρὸς μέ, ἤρξατο ¹³ κράζειν· καὶ εἶπα αὐτῇ, πόθεν τὸ ἐρίφιον; μὴ κλεψιμαῖόν ἐστίν; ἀπόδος αὐτὸ τοῖς κυρίοις· οὐ γὰρ θεμιτόν ἐστι φαγεῖν

14 κλεψιμαῖον. Ἡ δὲ εἶπε, δῶρον δέδοται μοι ἐπὶ τῷ μισθῷ· καὶ οὐκ ἐπίστευον αὐτῇ· καὶ ἔλεγον ἀποδιδόναι αὐτὸ τοῖς κυρίοις, καὶ ἡρυνθρίων πρὸς αὐτήν· ἡ δὲ ἀποκριθεῖσα εἶπέ μοι, ποῦ εἰσιν αἱ ἐλεημοσύναι σου, καὶ αἱ δικαιοσύναι σου; ἰδοὺ γνωστὰ πάντα μετὰ σοῦ.

3 Καὶ λυπηθεὶς ἔκλαυσα, καὶ προσευξάμην μετ' ὁδύνης, λέγων, 2 Δίκαιος εἶ Κύριε, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἔργα σου, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ ὁδοί σου ἐλεημοσύναι καὶ ἀλήθεια, καὶ κρίσιν ἀληθινὴν καὶ δικαίαν σὺ κρίνεις εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Μνήσθητί μου, καὶ ἐπίβλεψον ἐπ' ἐμέ· μή με ἐκδικῇς ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις μου καὶ τοῖς ἀγνοήμασί μου, καὶ 4 τῶν πατέρων μου, ἃ ἥμαρτον ἐνώπιόν σου. Παρήκουσαν γὰρ τῶν ἐντολῶν σου, καὶ ἔδωκας ἡμᾶς εἰς διαρπαγὴν καὶ αἰχμαλωσίαν καὶ θάνατον καὶ παραβολὴν ὀνειδισμοῦ πᾶσι τοῖς ἔθνεσιν ἐν οἷς ἐσκορπίσμεθα.

5 Καὶ νῦν πολλαὶ αἱ κρίσεις σου εἰσὶ καὶ ἀληθιναί, ἐξ ἐμοῦ ποιῆσαι περὶ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν μου καὶ τῶν πατέρων μου, ὅτι οὐκ ἐποιήσαμεν τὰς ἐντολάς σου, οὐ γὰρ ἐπορεύθημεν ἐν ἀληθείᾳ 6 ἐνώπιόν σου. Καὶ νῦν κατὰ τὸ ἀρεστὸν ἐνώπιόν σου ποιήσον μετ' ἐμοῦ· ἐπίταξον ἀναλαβεῖν τὸ πνεῦμά μου, ὅπως ἀπολυθῶ, καὶ γένωμαι γῆ, διότι λυσιτελεῖ μοι ἀποθανεῖν, ἢ ζῆν· ὅτι ὀνειδισμοὺς ψευδεῖς ἤκουσα, καὶ λύπη ἐστὶ πολλὴ ἐν ἐμοί· ἐπίταξον ἀπολυθῆναι με τῆς ἀνάγκης ἥδη εἰς τὸν αἰῶνιον τόπον, μὴ ἀποστρέψῃς τὸ πρόσωπόν σου ἀπ' ἐμοῦ.

7 Ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ ἡμέρᾳ συνέβη τῇ θυγατρὶ Ῥαγουήλ Σάρρα ἐν Ἐκβατάνοις τῆς Μηδίας, καὶ ταύτην ὀνειδισθῆναι ὑπὸ παιδισκῶν 8 πατρὸς αὐτῆς, ὅτι ἦν δεδομένη ἀνδράσιν ἑπτὰ, καὶ Ἀσμοδαῖος τὸ πονηρὸν δαιμόνιον ἀπέκτεινεν αὐτοὺς, πρὶν ἢ γενέσθαι αὐτοὺς μετ' αὐτῆς ὡς ἐν γυναιξί· καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῇ, οὐ συνιεῖς ἀποπνίγουσά σου τοὺς ἀνδρας; ἥδη ἑπτὰ ἔσχεις, καὶ ἐνὸς αὐτῶν οὐκ 9 ὠνομάσθης. Τί ἡμᾶς μαστιγοῖς; εἰ ἀπέθαναν, βάδιζε μετ' αὐτῶν, μὴ ἰδοιμέν σου υἱὸν ἢ θυγατέρα εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Ταῦτα ἀκούσασα ἐλυπήθη σφόδρα, ὥστε ἀπάγξασθαι· καὶ εἶπε, μία μὲν εἰμι τῷ πατρί μου· ἐὰν ποιήσω τοῦτο, ὀνειδος αὐτῷ ἔσται, καὶ τὸ γῆρας αὐτοῦ κατάξω μετ' ὁδύνης εἰς ᾄδου.

11 Καὶ ἐδεήθη πρὸς τῇ θυρίδι, καὶ εἶπεν, εὐλογητὸς εἶ Κύριε ὁ Θεός μου, καὶ εὐλογητὸν τὸ ὄνομά σου τὸ ἅγιον καὶ ἐντιμον εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας· εὐλογῆσαισάν σε πάντα τὰ ἔργα σου εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. 12 Καὶ νῦν, Κύριε, τοὺς ὀφθαλμούς μου καὶ τὸ πρόσωπόν μου εἰς 13 σὲ δέδωκα. Εἶπον, ἀπολῦσαί με ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς, καὶ μὴ ἀκούσαί 14 με μηκέτι ὀνειδισμόν. Σὺ γινώσκεις, Κύριε, ὅτι καθαρὰ εἰμι 15 ἀπὸ πάσης ἁμαρτίας ἀνδρὸς, καὶ οὐκ ἐμόλυνα τὸ ὄνομά μου οὐδὲ τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ πατρός μου ἐν τῇ γῇ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας μου· μονογενὴς εἰμι τῷ πατρί μου, καὶ οὐχ ὑπάρχει αὐτῷ παιδίον ὃ κληρονομήσει αὐτὸν, οὐδὲ ἀδελφὸς ἐγγὺς, οὐδὲ ὑπάρχων αὐτῷ υἱός, ἵνα συντηρήσω ἐμαυτὴν αὐτῷ γυναῖκα, ἥδη ἀπώλοντό μοι ἑπτὰ· ἵνατί μοι ζῆν; καὶ εἰ μὴ δοκεῖ σοι ἀποκτεῖναί με, ἐπίταξον ἐπιβλέψαι ἐπ' ἐμέ, καὶ μηκέτι ἐλεῆσαί με, καὶ ἀκούσαί με ὀνειδισμόν.

16 Καὶ εἰσηκούσθη προσευχὴ ἀμφοτέρων ἐνώπιον τῆς δόξης τοῦ 17 μεγάλου, Ῥαφαὴλ καὶ ἀπεστάλη ἰάσασθαι τοὺς δύο, τοῦ Τωβίτ

14 But she replied upon me, It was given for a gift more than the wages. Howbeit I did not believe her, but bade her render it to the owners: and I was abashed at her. But she replied upon me, Where are thine alms and thy righteous deeds? behold, thou and all thy works are known.

Then I being grieved did weep, and in my sorrow prayed, saying, 2 O Lord, thou art just, and all thy works and all thy ways are mercy and truth, and thou judgest truly and justly for ever. 3 Remember me, and look on me; punish me not for my sins and ignorances, and the sins of my fathers, who have sinned before thee: 4 for they obeyed not thy commandments: wherefore thou hast delivered us for a spoil, and unto captivity, and unto death, and for a proverb of reproach to all the nations among whom we are dispersed.

5 And now thy judgments are many and true: deal with me according to my sins and my fathers'; because we have not kept thy commandments, neither have walked in truth before thee. 6 Now therefore deal with me as seemeth best unto thee, and command my spirit to be taken from me, that I may be dissolved, and become earth: for it is profitable for me to die rather than to live, because I have heard false reproaches, and have much sorrow: command therefore that I may now be delivered out of this distress, and go into the everlasting place: turn not thy face away from me.

7 It came to pass the same day, that in Ecbatane a city of Media, Sara the daughter of Raguel was also reproached by her father's maids; 8 because that she had been married to seven husbands, whom Asmodeus the evil spirit had killed, before they had lain with her. Dost thou not know, said they, that thou hast strangled thine husbands? thou hast had already seven husbands, neither wast thou named after any of them. 9 Wherefore dost thou beat us for them? if they be dead, go thy ways after them, let us never see of thee either son or daughter. 10 When she heard these things she was very sorrowful, so that she thought to have strangled herself; and she said, I am the only daughter of my father, and if I do this, it shall be a reproach unto him, and I shall bring his old age with sorrow unto the grave.

11 Then she prayed toward the window, and said, Blessed art thou, O Lord my God, and thine holy and glorious name is blessed and honourable for ever: let all thy works praise thee for ever. 12 And now, O Lord, I set mine eyes and my face toward thee, 13 and say, Take me out of the earth, that I may hear no more the reproach. 14 Thou knowest, Lord, that I am pure from all sin with man, 15 and that I never polluted my name, nor the name of my father, in the land of my captivity: I am the only daughter of my father, neither hath he any child to be his heir, neither any near kinsman, nor any son of his alive, to whom I may keep myself for a wife: my seven husbands are already dead; and why should I live? but if it please not thee that I should die, command some regard to be had of me, and pity taken of me, that I hear no more reproach.

16 So the prayers of them both were heard before the majesty of the great God. 17 And Raphael was sent to heal them both, that is,

to scale away the whiteness of Tobit's eyes, and to give Sara the daughter of Raguel for a wife to Tobias the son of Tobit: and to bind Asmodeus the evil spirit; because she belonged to Tobias by right of inheritance. The self-same time came Tobit home, and entered into his house, and Sara the daughter of Raguel came down from her upper chamber.

In that day Tobit remembered the money which he had committed to Gabael in Rages of Media,² and said with himself, I have wished for death; wherefore do I not call for my son Tobias, that I may signify to him of the money before I die?

³And when he had called him, he said, My son, when I am dead, bury me; and despise not thy mother, but honour her all the days of thy life, and do that which shall please her, and grieve her not. ⁴Remember, my son, that she saw many dangers for thee, when thou wast in her womb; and when she is dead, bury her by me in one grave.

⁵My son, be mindful of the Lord our God all thy days, and let not thy will be set to sin, or to transgress his commandments: do uprightly all thy life long, and follow not the ways of unrighteousness. ⁶For if thou deal truly, thy doings shall prosperously succeed to thee, and to all them that live justly. ⁷Give alms of thy substance; and when thou givest alms, let not thine eye be envious, neither turn thy face from any poor, and the face of God shall not be turned away from thee. ⁸If thou hast abundance, give alms accordingly: if thou have but a little, be not afraid to give according to that little: ⁹for thou layest up a good treasure for thyself against the day of necessity. ¹⁰Because that alms do deliver from death, and suffereth not to come into darkness. ¹¹For alms is a good gift unto all that give it in the sight of the most High.

¹²Beware of all whoredom, my son, and chiefly take a wife of the seed of thy fathers, and take not a strange woman to wife, which is not of thy father's tribe: for we are the children of the prophets, Noe, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Remember, my son, that our fathers from the beginning, even that they all married wives of their own kindred, and were blessed in their children, and their seed shall inherit the land.

¹³Now therefore, my son, love thy brethren, and despise not in thy heart thy brethren, the sons and daughters of thy people, in not taking a wife of them: for in pride is destruction and much trouble, and in lewdness is decay and great want: for lewdness is the mother of famine. ¹⁴Let not the wages of any man, which hath wrought for thee, tarry with thee, but give him it out of hand: for if thou serve God, he will also repay thee: be circumspect, my son, in all things thou doest, and be wise in all thy conversation. ¹⁵Do that to no man which thou hatest: drink not wine to make thee drunken: neither let drunkenness go with thee in thy journey.

¹⁶Give of thy bread to the hungry, and of thy garments to them that are naked; and according to thine abundance give alms; and let not thine eye be envious, when thou givest alms. ¹⁷Pour out thy bread on the burial of the just, but give nothing to the

λεπίσαι τὰ λευκώματα, καὶ Σάρραν τὴν τοῦ Ῥαγουὴλ δοῦναι Τωβίᾳ τῷ υἱῷ Τωβίτ γυναικα, καὶ δῆσαι Ἀσμοδαῖον τὸ πονηρὸν δαιμόνιον, διότι Τωβία ἐπιβάλλει κληρονομήσαι αὐτήν. Ἐν αὐτῷ τῷ καιρῷ ἐπιστρέψας Τωβίτ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ, καὶ Σάρρα ἡ τοῦ Ῥαγουὴλ κατέβη ἐκ τοῦ ὑπερώου αὐτῆς.

Ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ ἐμνήσθη Τωβίτ περὶ τοῦ ἀργυρίου, οὗ ⁴παρέθετο Γαβαὴλ ἐν Ῥάγοις τῆς Μηδίας. Καὶ εἶπεν ἐν ἑαυτῷ, ²ἐγὼ ᾔτησάμην θάνατον, τί οὐ καλῶ Τωβίαν τὸν υἱόν μου, ἵνα αὐτῷ ὑποδείξω, πρὶν ἀποθανεῖν με;

Καὶ καλέσας αὐτὸν, εἶπε, παιδίον, ἐὰν ἀποθάνω, θάψον με, ³καὶ μὴ ὑπερίδῃς τὴν μητέρα σου· τίμα αὐτὴν πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας τῆς ζωῆς σου, καὶ ποίει τὸ ἀρεστὸν αὐτῇ, καὶ μὴ λυπήσῃς αὐτήν. Μνήσθητι, παιδίον, ὅτι πολλοὺς κινδύνους ἑώρακεν ἐπὶ σοὶ ἐν ⁴τῇ κοιλίᾳ· ὅταν ἀποθάνῃ, θάψον αὐτὴν παρ' ἐμοὶ ἐν ἐνὶ τάφῳ.

Πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας, παιδίον, Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν μνη- ⁵μόνευε, καὶ μὴ θελήσῃς ἁμαρτάνειν καὶ παραβῆναι τὰς ἐντολὰς αὐτοῦ· δικαιοσύνην ποίει πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας τῆς ζωῆς σου, καὶ ⁶μὴ πορευθῇς ταῖς ὁδοῖς τῆς ἀδικίας. Διότι ποιουντός σου τὴν ⁶ἀλήθειαν, εὐδοαίαι ἔσονται ἐν τοῖς ἔργοις σου, καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ⁷ποιούσι τὴν δικαιοσύνην. Ἐκ τῶν ὑπαρχόντων σοὶ ποίει ἐλεη- ⁷μοσύνην, καὶ μὴ φθονεσάτω σου ὁ ὀφθαλμὸς ἐν τῷ ποιεῖν σε ⁸ἐλεημοσύνην· μὴ ἀποστρέψῃς τὸ πρόσωπόν σου ἀπὸ παντός ⁸πτωχοῦ, καὶ ἀπὸ σοῦ οὐ μὴ ἀποστραφῇ τὸ πρόσωπον τοῦ Θεοῦ. ⁸Ὡς σοὶ ὑπάρχοι κατὰ τὸ πλῆθος, ποιήσον ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐλεημο- ⁹σύνην· ἐὰν ὀλίγον σοὶ ὑπάρχη, κατὰ τὸ ὀλίγον μὴ φοβοῦ ποιεῖν ⁹ἐλεημοσύνην. Θέμα γὰρ ἀγαθὸν θησαυρίζεις σεαυτῷ εἰς ἡμέραν ⁹ἀνάγκης. Διότι ἐλεημοσύνη ἐκ θανάτου ῥύεται, καὶ οὐκ ἐὰ ¹⁰εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὸ σκότος. Δῶρον γὰρ ἀγαθὸν ἐστὶν ἐλεημοσύνη ¹¹πᾶσι τοῖς ποιούσιν αὐτὴν ἐνώπιον τοῦ ὑψίστου.

Πρόσεχε σεαυτῷ, παιδίον, ἀπὸ πάσης πορνείας, καὶ γυναῖκα ¹²πρῶτον λάβε ἀπὸ τοῦ σπέρματος τῶν πατέρων σου· μὴ λάβῃς ¹²γυναῖκα ἄλλοτρίαν, ἣ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐκ τῆς φυλῆς τοῦ πατέρος σου, ¹²διότι υἱοὶ προφητῶν ἐσμέν, Νῶε, Ἀβραάμ, Ἰσαὰκ, Ἰακώβ. Οἱ ¹²πατέρες ἡμῶν ἀπὸ τοῦ αἰῶνος, μνήσθητι, παιδίον, ὅτι αὐτοὶ ¹²πάντες ἔλαβον γυναῖκας ἐκ τῶν ἀδελφῶν αὐτῶν, καὶ εὐλογήθη- ¹²σαν ἐν τοῖς τέκνοις αὐτῶν, καὶ τὸ σπέρμα αὐτῶν κληρονομήσει ¹²γῆν.

Καὶ νῦν, παιδίον, ἀγάπα τοὺς ἀδελφούς σου, καὶ μὴ ὑπερ- ¹³ηφανεύου τῇ καρδίᾳ σου ἀπὸ τῶν ἀδελφῶν σου, καὶ τῶν υἱῶν ¹³καὶ θυγατέρων τοῦ λαοῦ σου, λαβεῖν σεαυτῷ ἐξ αὐτῶν γυναῖκα· ¹³διότι ἐν τῇ ὑπερηφανίᾳ ἀπώλεια καὶ ἀκαταστασία πολλή, καὶ ¹³ἐν τῇ ἀχρεϊότητι ἐλάττωσις καὶ ἔνδεια μεγάλη· ἡ γὰρ ἀχρεϊότης ¹³μήτηρ ἐστὶ τοῦ λιμοῦ. Μισθὸς παντὸς ἀνθρώπου ὃς ἐὰν ἐργά- ¹⁴σται, παρὰ σοὶ μὴ αὐλισθήτω, ἀλλ' ἀπόδος αὐτῷ παρ' αὐτίκα· ¹⁴ἐὰν δουλεύσῃς τῷ Θεῷ, ἀποδοθήσεται σοὶ πρόσεχε σεαυτῷ, ¹⁴παιδίον, ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς ἔργοις σου, καὶ ἴσθι πεπαιδευμένος ἐν πάσῃ ¹⁴ἀναστροφῇ σου. Καὶ ὁ μισεῖς, μηδενὶ ποιήσῃς· οἶνον εἰς μέθην ¹⁵μὴ πίῃς, καὶ μὴ πορευθῇτω μετὰ σοῦ μέθη ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ σου.

Ἐκ τοῦ ἄρτου σου δίδου πεινῶντι, καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἱματίων σου ¹⁶τοῖς γυμνοῖς· πᾶν ὃ ἐὰν περισσεύῃ σοι, ποίει ἐλεημοσύνην, καὶ ¹⁶μὴ φθονεσάτω σου ὁ ὀφθαλμὸς ἐν τῷ ποιεῖν σε ἐλεημοσύνην. ¹⁶Ἐκχεον τοὺς ἄρτους σου ἐπὶ τὸν τάφον τῶν δικαίων, καὶ μὴ ¹⁷

- 18 δὲ τοῖς ἁμαρτωλοῖς. Συμβουλίαν παρὰ παντὸς φρονίμου ζητήσον, καὶ μὴ καταφρονήσης ἐπὶ πάσης συμβουλίας χρησίμης.
- 19 Καὶ ἐν παντὶ καιρῷ εὐλόγει Κύριον τὸν Θεόν, καὶ παρ' αὐτοῦ αἴτησον, ὅπως αἱ ὁδοί σου εὐθεῖαι γένωνται, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ τρίβοι καὶ βουλαί σου εὐδοθῶσι· διότι πᾶν ἔθνος οὐκ ἔχει βουλήν, ἀλλ' αὐτὸς ὁ Κύριος δίδωσι πάντα τὰ ἀγαθὰ, καὶ ὃν ἐὰν θέλῃ, ταπεινοὶ καθὼς βούλεται· καὶ νῦν, παιδίον, μνημόνευε τῶν ἐντολῶν μου, καὶ μὴ ἐξαλειφθήτωσαν ἐκ τῆς καρδίας σου.
- 20 Καὶ νῦν ὑποδεικνύω σοι τὰ δέκα τάλαντα τοῦ ἀργυρίου, ἃ παρεθέμην Γαβαήλῳ τῷ τοῦ Γαβρία ἐν Ῥάγοις τῆς Μηδίας.
- 21 Καὶ μὴ φοβοῦ, παιδίον, ὅτι ἐπτωχεύσαμεν· ὑπάρχει σοι πολλὰ, ἐὰν φοβηθῇς τὸν Θεόν, καὶ ἀποστῇς ἀπὸ πάσης ἁμαρτίας, καὶ ποιήσης τὸ ἀρεστὸν ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ.
- 5 Καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς Τωβίας εἶπεν αὐτῷ, πάτερ, ποιήσω πάντα
2 ὅσα ἐντέταλσαι μοι. Ἀλλὰ πῶς δυνήσομαι λαβεῖν τὸ ἀργύριον, καὶ οὐ γινώσκω αὐτόν; Καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ τὸ χειρόγραφον, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, ζήτησον σεαυτῷ ἄνθρωπον ὃς συμπορεύσεται σοι, καὶ δώσω αὐτῷ μισθὸν ἕως ζῶ, καὶ λάβε πορευθεὶς τὸ ἀργύριον.
- 4 Καὶ ἐπορεύθη ζητῆσαι ἄνθρωπον, καὶ εἶρε Ῥαφαήλ, ὃς ἦν
5 ἄγγελος, καὶ οὐκ ᾔδει· καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, εἰ δύναμαι πορευθῆναι μετὰ σοῦ ἐν Ῥάγοις τῆς Μηδίας, καὶ εἰ ἔμπειρος εἰ τῶν τόπων.
- 6 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ ἄγγελος, πορεύσομαι μετὰ σοῦ, καὶ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἐμπειρῶ, καὶ παρὰ Γαβαήλ τὸν ἀδελφὸν ἡμῶν ἠύλισθην.
- 7 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Τωβίας ὑπόμεινόν με, καὶ ἔρῳ τῷ πατρί.
- 8 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, πορεύου, καὶ μὴ χρονίσῃς· καὶ εἰσελθὼν, εἶπε τῷ πατρί, ἰδοὺ εὔρηκα ὃς συμπορεύσεται μοι· ὁ δὲ εἶπε, φώνησον αὐτὸν πρὸς μέ, ἵνα ἐπιγνῶ ποίας φυλῆς ἐστὶ, καὶ εἰ πιστὸς τοῦ πορευθῆναι μετὰ σοῦ. Καὶ ἐκάλεσεν αὐτόν· καὶ εἰσῆλθε, καὶ ἡσπάσαντο ἀλλήλους.
- 10 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Τωβίτ, ἀδελφέ, ἐκ ποίας φυλῆς καὶ ἐκ ποίας
11 πατριᾶς εἰ σύ; ὑπόδειξόν μοι. Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, φυλὴν καὶ πατριὰν σὺ ζητεῖς; ἡ μίσθιον, ὃς συμπορεύσεται μετὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ σου; καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Τωβίτ, βούλομαι, ἀδελφέ, ἐπιγνῶναι τὸ γένος σου, καὶ τὸ ὄνομα.
- 12 Ὃς δὲ εἶπεν, ἐγὼ Ἀζαρίας Ἀνανίου τοῦ μεγάλου, τῶν ἀδελφῶν σου. Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, ὑγιαίνων ἔλθοις, ἀδελφέ· καὶ μὴ μοι ὀργισθῇς, ὅτι ἐζήτησά τὴν φυλὴν σου, καὶ τὴν πατριάν σου ἐπιγνῶναι· καὶ σὺ τυγχάνεις ἀδελφός μου ἐκ τῆς καλῆς καὶ ἀγαθῆς γενεᾶς· ἐπεγίνωσκον γὰρ ἐγὼ Ἀνανίαν καὶ Ἰωνάθαν τοὺς υἱοὺς Σεμεὶ τοῦ μεγάλου, ὡς ἐπορευόμεθα κοινῶς εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα προσκυνεῖν, ἀναφέροντες τὰ πρωτότοκα, καὶ τὰς δεκάτας τῶν γεννημάτων, καὶ οὐκ ἐπλανήθησαν ἐν τῇ πλάνῃ τῶν ἀδελφῶν ἡμῶν· ἐκ ρίζης καλῆς εἰ, ἀδελφέ. Ἀλλὰ εἰπὸν μοι τίνα σοι ἔσομαι μισθὸν διδόναι; δραχμὴν τῆς ἡμέρας, καὶ τὰ
15 δέοντά σοι ὡς καὶ τῷ υἱῷ μου, καὶ ἔτι προσθήσω σοι ἐπὶ τὸν μισθόν, ἐὰν ὑγιαίνοντες ἐπιστρέψῃτε.
- 16 Καὶ εὐδόκησαν οὕτως· καὶ εἶπε πρὸς Τωβίαν, ἕτοιμος γίνου πρὸς τὴν ὁδόν, καὶ εὐδοθῇτε· καὶ ἡτοίμασεν ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ τὰ πρὸς τὴν ὁδόν· καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ πατήρ αὐτοῦ, πορεύου μετὰ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τούτου, ὁ δὲ ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ οἰκῶν Θεὸς εὐδώσει τὴν ὁδὸν ὑμῶν, καὶ ὁ ἄγγελος αὐτοῦ συμπορευθήτω ὑμῖν· καὶ

wicked. ¹⁸ Ask counsel of all that are wise, and despise not any counsel that is profitable.

¹⁹ Bless the Lord thy God alway, and desire of him that thy ways may be directed, and that all thy paths and counsels may prosper: for every nation hath not counsel; but the Lord himself giveth all good things, and he humbleth whom he will, as he will; now therefore, my son, remember my commandments, neither let them be put out of thy mind.

²⁰ And now I signify this to thee, that I committed ten talents to Gabael the son of Gabrias at Rages in Media. ²¹ And fear not, my son, that we are made poor: for thou hast much wealth, if thou fear God, and depart from all sin, and do that which is pleasing in his sight.

Tobias then answered and said, Father, I will do all things which thou hast commanded me: ² but how can I receive the money, seeing I know him not? ³ Then he gave him the handwriting, and said unto him, Seek thee a man which may go with thee, and I will give him wages whiles I yet live: and go and receive the money.

⁴ Therefore when he went to seek a man, he found Raphael that was an angel. ⁵ But he knew not; and he said unto him, Canst thou go with me to Rages? and knowest thou those places well? ⁶ To whom the angel said, I will go with thee, and I know the way well: for I have lodged with our brother Gabael.

⁷ Then Tobias said unto him, Tarry for me, till I tell my father. ⁸ Then he said unto him, Go, and tarry not. So he went in and said to his father, Behold, I have found one which will go with me. Then he said, Call him unto me, that I may know of what tribe he is, and whether he be a trusty man to go with thee. ⁹ So he called him, and he came in, and they saluted one another.

¹⁰ Then Tobit said unto him, Brother, shew me of what tribe and family thou art. ¹¹ To whom he said, Dost thou seek for a tribe or family; or an hired man to go with thy son? Then Tobit said unto him, I would know, brother, thy kindred and name.

¹² Then he said, I am Azarias, the son of Ananias the great, and of thy brethren. ¹³ Then Tobit said, Thou art welcome, brother; be not now angry with me, because have enquired to know thy tribe and thy family; for thou art my brother, of an honest and good stock: for I know Ananias and Jonathas, sons of that great Samaïas, as we went together to Jerusalem to worship, and offered the firstborn, and the tenths of the fruits; and they were not seduced with the error of our brethren: my brother, thou art of a good stock. ¹⁴ But tell me, what wages shall I give thee? wilt thou a drachm a day, and things necessary, as to mine own son? ¹⁵ Yea, moreover, if ye return safe, I will add something to thy wages.

¹⁶ So they were well pleased. Then said he to Tobias, Prepare thyself for the journey, and God send you a good journey. And when his son had prepared all things for the journey, his father said, Go thou with this man, and God, which dwelleth in heaven, prosper your journey, and the angel

of God keep you company. So they went forth both, and the young man's dog with them.

¹⁷ But Anna his mother wept, and said to Tobit, Why hast thou sent away our son? is he not the staff of our hand, in going in and out before us? ¹⁸ Be not greedy to add money to money: but let it be as refuse in respect of our child. ¹⁹ For that which the Lord hath given us to live with doth suffice us. ²⁰ Then said Tobit to her, Take no care, my sister; he shall return in safety, and thine eyes shall see him. ²¹ For the good angel will keep him company, and his journey shall be prosperous, and he shall return safe. ²² Then she made an end of weeping.

And as they went on their journey, they came in the evening to the river Tigris, and they lodged there. ² And when the young man went down to wash himself, a fish leaped out of the river, and would have devoured him. ³ Then the angel said unto him, Take the fish. And the young man laid hold of the fish, and drew it to land. ⁴ To whom the angel said, Open the fish, and take the heart and the liver and the gall, and put them up safely. ⁵ So the young man did as the angel commanded him; and when they had roasted the fish, they did eat it: then they both went on their way, till they drew near to Ecbatane.

⁶ Then the young man said to the angel, Brother Azarias, to what use is the heart and the liver and the gall of the fish? ⁷ And he said unto him, Touching the heart and the liver, if a devil or an evil spirit trouble any, we must make a smoke thereof before the man or the woman, and the party shall be no more vexed. ⁸ As for the gall, *it is good* to anoint a man that hath whiteness in his eyes, and he shall be healed.

⁹ And when they were come near to Rages, ¹⁰ the angel said to the young man, Brother, to day we shall lodge with Raguel, who is thy cousin; he also hath one only daughter, named Sara; I will speak for her, that she may be given thee for a wife. ¹¹ For to thee doth the right of her appertain, seeing thou only art of her kindred. ¹² And the maid is fair and wise: now therefore hear me, and I will speak to her father; and when we return from Rages we will celebrate the marriage: for I know that Raguel cannot marry her to another according to the law of Moses, but he shall be guilty of death, because the right of inheritance doth rather appertain to thee than to any other.

¹³ Then the young man answered the angel, I have heard, brother Azarias, that this maid hath been given to seven men, who all died in the marriage chamber. ¹⁴ And now I am the only son of my father, and I am afraid, lest, if I go in unto her, I die, as the others before: for a wicked spirit loveth her, which hurteth no one except those which come unto her: wherefore I also fear lest I die, and bring my father's and my mother's life because of me to the grave with sorrow: for they have no other son to bury them.

¹⁵ Then the angel said to him, Dost thou not remember the precepts that thy father gave thee, that thou shouldest marry a wife

ἐξήλθαν ἀμφότεροι ἀπελθεῖν, καὶ ὁ κύων τοῦ παιδαρίου μετ' αὐτῶν.

Ἐκλαυσε δὲ Ἄννα ἡ μήτηρ αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπε πρὸς Τωβίτ, τί 17
ἐξαπέστειλας τὸ παιδίον ἡμῶν; ἢ οὐχὶ ἡ ῥάβδος τῆς χειρὸς
ἡμῶν ἐστὶν ἐν τῷ εἰσπορεύεσθαι αὐτὸν καὶ ἐκπορεύεσθαι ἐνώ-
πιον ἡμῶν; Ἀργύριον τῷ ἀργυρίῳ μὴ φθάσαι, ἀλλὰ περί- 18
ψημα τοῦ παιδίου ἡμῶν γένοιτο. Ὡς γὰρ δέδοται ἡμῖν ζῆν 19
παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου, τοῦτο ἱκανὸν ἡμῖν ὑπάρχει. Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ 20
Τωβίτ, μὴ λόγον ἔχε ἀδελφῇ, ὑγιαίνων ἐλεύσεται, καὶ οἱ ὀφ-
θαλμοὶ σου ὄψονται αὐτόν. Ἄγγελος γὰρ ἀγαθὸς συμπορεύ- 21
σεται αὐτῷ, καὶ εὐδοθήσεται ἡ ὁδὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὑποστρέψει
ὑγιαίνων. Καὶ ἐπαύσατο κλαίονσα. 22

Οἱ δὲ πορευόμενοι τὴν ὁδόν, ἦλθον ἐσπέρας ἐπὶ τὸν Τίγριν 6
ποταμὸν, καὶ ἠϋλίζοντο ἐκεῖ. Τὸ δὲ παιδάριον κατέβη περι- 2
κλύσασθαι, καὶ ἀνεπήδησεν ἰχθὺς ἀπὸ τοῦ ποταμοῦ, καὶ
ἐβουλήθη καταπιεῖν τὸ παιδάριον. Ὁ δὲ ἄγγελος εἶπεν αὐτῷ, 3
ἐπιλαβοῦ τοῦ ἰχθύος· καὶ ἐκράτησε τὸν ἰχθύν τὸ παιδάριον,
καὶ ἀνέβαλεν αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν. Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ ἄγγελος, 4
ἀνάτεμε τὸν ἰχθύν, καὶ λαβὼν τὴν καρδίαν καὶ τὸ ἥπαρ καὶ
τὴν χολήν, θές ἀσφαλῶς. Καὶ ἐποίησε τὸ παιδάριον ὡς εἶπεν 5
αὐτῷ ὁ ἄγγελος· τὸν δὲ ἰχθύν ὀπτήσαντες, ἔφαγον· καὶ ὤδεον
ἀμφότεροι, ἕως οὗ ἡγγισαν ἐν Ἐκβατάνοις.

Καὶ εἶπε τὸ παιδάριον τῷ ἀγγέλῳ, Ἀζαρία ἀδελφε, τί ἐστὶν 6
ἡ καρδία καὶ τὸ ἥπαρ καὶ ἡ χολὴ τοῦ ἰχθύος; Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, 7
ἡ καρδία καὶ τὸ ἥπαρ, ἐάν τινα ὀχλῇ δαιμόνιον ἢ πνεῦμα πονη-
ρὸν, ταῦτα δεῖ καπνίσαι ἐνώπιον ἀνθρώπου, ἢ γυναικὸς, καὶ
μηκέτι ὀχληθῇ. Ἡ δὲ χολή, ἔγχρισαι ἀνθρώπον ὃς ἔχει λευ- 8
κώματα ἐν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς, καὶ ἰαθήσεται.

Ὡς δὲ προσήγγισαν τῇ Ῥάγῃ, εἶπεν ὁ ἄγγελος τῷ παι- 9, 10
δαρίῳ, ἀδελφε, σήμερον αὐλισθήσόμεθα παρὰ Ῥαγουήλ, καὶ
αὐτὸς συγγενὴς σου ἐστὶ, καὶ ἐστὶν αὐτῷ θυγατὴρ ὀνόματι
Σάρρα· λαλήσω περὶ αὐτῆς, τοῦ δοθῆναι σοι αὐτὴν εἰς γυναῖκα,
καὶ ὅτι σοι ἐπιβάλλει ἡ κληρονομία αὐτῆς, καὶ σὺ μόνος εἶ ἐκ 11
τοῦ γένους αὐτῆς. Καὶ τὸ κοράσιον καλὸν καὶ φρόνιμόν ἐστι· 12
καὶ νῦν ἄκουσόν μου, καὶ λαλήσω τῷ πατρὶ αὐτῆς, καὶ ὅταν
ὑποστρέψωμεν ἐκ Ῥαγῶν, ποιήσομεν τὸν γάμον· διότι ἐπίστα-
μαι Ῥαγουήλ ὅτι οὐ μὴ δῶ αὐτὴν ἀνδρὶ ἐτέρῳ κατὰ τὸν νόμον
Μωυσῆ, ἢ ὀφειλήσει θάνατον, ὅτι τὴν κληρονομίαν σοι καθήκει
λαβεῖν, ἢ πάντα ἀνθρώπον.

Τότε εἶπε τὸ παιδάριον τῷ ἀγγέλῳ, Ἀζαρία ἀδελφε, ἀκήκοα 13
ἐγὼ τὸ κοράσιον δεδοσθαι ἐπὶ ἀνδράσι, καὶ πάντας ἐν τῷ
νυμφῶνι ἀπολωλότας· καὶ νῦν ἐγὼ μόνος εἰμὶ τῷ πατρὶ, καὶ 14
φοβοῦμαι μὴ εἰσελθὼν ἀποθάνω καθὼς καὶ οἱ πρότεροι, ὅτι
δαιμόνιον φιλεῖ αὐτὴν, ὃ οὐκ ἀδικεῖ οὐδένα πλὴν τῶν προσ-
αγόντων αὐτῇ· καὶ νῦν ἐγὼ φοβοῦμαι μὴ ἀποθάνω, καὶ κατὰξω
τὴν ζωὴν τοῦ πατρός μου καὶ τῆς μητρός μου μετ' ὀδύνης ἐπ'
ἐμοὶ εἰς τὸν τάφον αὐτῶν, καὶ υἱὸς ἕτερος οὐκ ὑπάρχει αὐτοῖς
ὃς θάψει αὐτούς.

Εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ ἄγγελος, οὐ μέμνησαι τῶν λόγων ὧν ἐνε- 15
τείλατό σοι ὁ πατήρ σου, ὑπὲρ τοῦ λαβεῖν σε γυναῖκα ἐκ τοῦ

γένους σου; καὶ νῦν ἄκουσόν μου, ἀδελφὲ, διότι σοι ἔσται εἰς γυναῖκα, καὶ τοῦ δαιμονίου μηδὲνα λόγον ἔχε, ὅτι τὴν νύκτα
 16 ταύτην δοθήσεται σοι αὕτη εἰς γυναῖκα. Καὶ ἔαν εἰσέλθῃς εἰς τὸν νυμφῶνα, λήψῃ τέφραν θυμιαμάτων, καὶ ἐπιθήσεις ἀπὸ
 17 τῆς καρδίας καὶ τοῦ ἥπατος τοῦ ἰχθύος, καὶ καπνίσῃς, καὶ ὁσφρανθήσεται τὸ δαιμόνιον, καὶ φεύξεται, καὶ οὐκ ἐπανελύσεται εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τοῦ αἰῶνος· ὅταν δὲ προσπορεύῃ αὕτῃ, ἐγέρθητε ἀμφότεροι, καὶ βοήσατε πρὸς τὸν ἐλεήμονα Θεόν, καὶ σώσει ὑμᾶς, καὶ ἐλεήσει· μὴ φοβοῦ, ὅτι σοὶ αὕτη ἡτοίμασμένη ἦν ἀπὸ τοῦ αἰῶνος, καὶ σὺ αὐτὴν σώσεις, καὶ πορεύσεται μετὰ σοῦ, καὶ ὑπολαμβάνω ὅτι σοὶ ἔσται ἐξ αὐτῆς παιδί· καὶ ὡς ἤκουσε Τωβίας ταῦτα, ἐφίλησεν αὐτήν, καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτοῦ ἐκολλήθη σφόδρα αὐτῇ· καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς Ἐκβάτανα.

7 Καὶ παρεγένετο εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν Ῥαγουήλ· καὶ Σάρρα δὲ ὑπήντησεν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἐχαιρέτισεν αὐτὸν, καὶ αὐτὸς αὐτούς·
 2 καὶ εἰσήγαγεν αὐτοὺς εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν. Καὶ εἶπε Ῥαγουήλ Ἔδνα τῇ γυναικὶ αὐτοῦ, ὡς ὅμοιος ὁ νεανίσκος Τωβίτ τῷ ἀνεψιῷ μου;

3 Καὶ ἠρώτησεν αὐτοὺς Ῥαγουήλ, πόθεν ἐστὲ, ἀδελφοί; καὶ εἶπον αὐτῷ, ἐκ τῶν υἱῶν Νεφθαλὶ τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐν Νινευῇ.
 4 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, γινώσκετε Τωβίτ τὸν ἀδελφὸν ἡμῶν; οἱ δὲ εἶπον, γινώσκομεν· καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, ὑγιαίνει; Οἱ δὲ εἶπαν, καὶ ζῇ, καὶ ὑγιαίνει· καὶ εἶπε Τωβίας, πατὴρ μου ἐστί. Καὶ ἀνεπήδησε Ῥαγουήλ, καὶ κατεφίλησεν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἔκλαυσε,
 7 καὶ εὐλόγησεν αὐτὸν, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, ὁ τοῦ καλοῦ καὶ ἀγαθοῦ ἀνθρώπου υἱός· καὶ ἀκούσας ὅτι Τωβίτ ἀπώλεσε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἑαυτοῦ, ἐλυπήθη καὶ ἔκλαυσε.

8 Καὶ Ἔδνα ἡ γυνὴ αὐτοῦ καὶ Σάρρα ἡ θυγάτηρ αὐτοῦ ἔκλαυσαν, καὶ ὑπεδέξαντο αὐτοὺς προθύμως· καὶ ἔθυσαν κριὸν προβάτων, καὶ παρέθηκαν ὅσα πλείονα· εἶπε δὲ Τωβίας τῷ Ῥαφαήλ, Ἀζαρία ἀδελφὲ, λάλησον ὑπὲρ ὧν ἔλεγες ἐν τῇ πορείᾳ, καὶ τελεσθήτω τὸ πρᾶγμα.

9 Καὶ μετέδωκε τὸν λόγον τῷ Ῥαγουήλ· καὶ εἶπε Ῥαγουήλ πρὸς Τωβίαν, φάγε, πίε, καὶ ἡδέως γίνου, σοὶ γὰρ καθήκει τὸ παιδίον μου λαβεῖν· πλὴν ὑποδείξω σοι τὴν ἀλήθειαν.
 11 Ἔδωκα τὸ παιδίον μου ἐπὶ ἀνδράσι, καὶ ὁπότε ἐὰν εἰσεπορεύοντο πρὸς αὐτήν, ἀπέθνησκον ὑπὸ τὴν νύκτα· ἀλλὰ τὸ νῦν ἔχον, ἡδέως γίνου· καὶ εἶπε Τωβίας, οὐ γένομαι οὐδὲν ὧδε, ἕως
 12 ἂν στησῇτε καὶ σταθῇτε πρὸς μέ. Καὶ εἶπε Ῥαγουήλ, κομίζου αὐτήν ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν κατὰ τὴν κρίσιν· σὺ δὲ ἀδελφὸς εἶ αὐτῆς, καὶ αὕτη σου ἐστίν· ὁ δὲ ἐλεήμων Θεὸς εὐοδώσει ὑμῖν τὰ κάλλιστα.

13 Καὶ ἐκάλεσε Σάρραν τὴν θυγατέρα αὐτοῦ, καὶ λαβὼν τῆς χειρὸς αὐτῆς, παρέδωκεν αὐτήν Τωβίᾳ γυναῖκα, καὶ εἶπεν, ἰδοὺ κατὰ τὸν νόμον Μωυσέως κομίζου αὐτήν, καὶ ἄπαγε πρὸς τὸν
 14 πατέρα σου· καὶ εὐλόγησεν αὐτούς. Καὶ ἐκάλεσεν Ἔδναν τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ· καὶ λαβὼν βιβλίον, ἔγραψε συγγραφὴν, καὶ
 15 ἐσφραγίσατο. Καὶ ἤρξαντο ἐσθίειν.

16 Καὶ ἐκάλεσε Ῥαγουήλ Ἔδναν τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπεν

of thine own kindred? wherefore hear me, O my brother; for she shall be given thee to wife; and make thou no reckoning of the evil spirit; for this same night shall she be given thee in marriage. ¹⁶ And when thou shalt come into the marriage chamber, thou shalt take the ashes of perfume, and shalt lay upon them some of the heart and liver of the fish, and shalt make a smoke with it: ¹⁷ and the devil shall smell it, and flee away, and never come again any more: but when thou shalt come to her, rise up both of you, and pray to God which is merciful, who will have pity on you, and save you: fear not, for she is appointed unto thee from the beginning; and thou shalt preserve her, and she shall go with thee. Moreover I suppose that she shall bear thee children. Now when Tobias had heard these things, he loved her, and his heart was effectually joined to her. And he came to Ecbatane.

And he came to the house of Raguel; and Sara met him: and saluted him, and he them; and she brought them into the house. ² Then said Raguel to Edna his wife, How like is this young man to Tobit my cousin!

³ And Raguel asked them, From whence are ye, brethren? To whom they said, We are of the sons of Nephthali, which are captives in Nineve. ⁴ Then he said to them, Do ye know Tobit our kinsman? And they said, We know him. Then said he, Is he in good health? ⁵ And they said, He is both alive, and in good health: and Tobias said, He is my father. ⁶ Then Raguel leaped up, and kissed him, and wept, ⁷ and blessed him, and said unto him, *Thou art* the son of an honest and good man. But when he had heard that Tobit was blind, he was sorrowful, and wept.

⁸ And likewise Edna his wife and Sara his daughter wept. Moreover they entertained them cheerfully; and after that they had killed a ram of the flock, they set store of meat on the table. Then said Tobias to Raphael, Brother Azarias, speak of those things of which thou didst talk in the way, and let this business be dispatched.

⁹ So he communicated the matter with Raguel: and Raguel said to Tobias, Eat and drink, and make merry: ¹⁰ for it is meet that thou shouldest marry my daughter: nevertheless I will declare unto thee the truth. ¹¹ I have given my daughter in marriage to seven men, who died that night they came in unto her: nevertheless for the present be merry. But Tobias said, I will eat nothing here, till we agree and swear one to another. ¹² And Raguel said, Then take her from henceforth according to the manner, for thou art her cousin, and she is thine, and the merciful God give you good success in all things.

¹³ Then he called his daughter Sara, and she came to her father, and he took her by the hand, and gave her to be wife to Tobias, saying, Behold, take her after the law of Moses, and lead her away to thy father. And he blessed them; ¹⁴ and called Edna his wife, and took paper, and did write an instrument of covenants, and sealed it. ¹⁵ Then they began to eat.

¹⁶ After Raguel called his wife Edna, and

said unto her, Sister, prepare another chamber, and bring her in thither. ¹⁷ Which when she had done as he had bidden her, she brought her thither: and she wept, and she received the tears of her daughter, and said unto her, ¹⁸ Be of good comfort, my daughter; the Lord of heaven and earth give thee joy for this thy sorrow: be of good comfort, my daughter.

And when they had supped, they brought Tobias in unto her. ² And as he went, he remembered the words of Raphael, and took the ashes of the perfumes, and put the heart and the liver of the fish thereupon, and made a smoke *therewith*. ³ The which smell when the evil spirit had smelled, he fled into the utmost parts of Egypt, and the angel bound him.

⁴ And after that they were both shut in together, Tobias rose out of the bed, and said, Sister, arise, and let us pray that God would have pity on us. ⁵ Then began Tobias to say, Blessed art thou, O God of our fathers, and blessed *is* thy holy and glorious name for ever; let the heavens bless thee, and all thy creatures. ⁶ Thou madest Adam, and gavest him Eve his wife for an helper and stay: of them came mankind: thou hast said, It is not good that man should be alone; let us make unto him an aid like unto himself. ⁷ And now, O Lord, I take not this my sister for lust, but uprightly: *therefore* mercifully ordain that we may become aged together. ⁸ And she said with him, Amen.

⁹ So they slept both that night. And Raguel arose, and went and made a grave, ¹⁰ saying, *I fear* lest he also be dead. ¹¹ But when Raguel was come into his house, ¹² he said unto his wife Edna, Send one of the maids, and let her see whether he be alive: if *he be* not, that we may bury him, and no man know it. ¹³ So the maid opened the door, and went in, and found them both asleep, ¹⁴ and came forth, and told them that he was alive.

¹⁵ Then Raguel praised God, and said, O God, thou art worthy to be praised with all pure and holy praise: therefore let thy saints praise thee with all thy creatures: and let all thine angels and thine elect praise thee for ever. ¹⁶ Thou art to be praised, for thou hast made me joyful; and that is not come to me which I suspected; but thou hast dealt with us according to thy great mercy. ¹⁷ Thou art to be praised, because thou hast had mercy of two that were the only begotten children of their fathers: grant them mercy, O Lord, and finish their life in health with joy and mercy. ¹⁸ Then Raguel bade his servants to fill the grave.

¹⁹ And he kept the wedding feast fourteen days. ²⁰ For before the days of the marriage were finished, Raguel had said unto him by an oath, that he should not depart till the fourteen days of the marriage were expired; ²¹ and then he should take the half of his goods, and go in safety to his father; and should have the rest when I and my wife be dead.

Then Tobias called Raphael, and said unto him, ² Brother Azarias, take with thee a servant, and two camels, and go to Rages of Media to Gabael, and bring me the

αὐτῇ, ἀδελφὴν ἐτοίμασον τὸ ἕτερον ταμείον, καὶ εἰσάγαγε αὐτήν. Καὶ ἐποίησεν ὡς εἶπε· καὶ εἰσήγαγεν αὐτὴν ἐκεῖ, καὶ ¹⁷ ἔκλαυσε· καὶ ἀπεδέξατο τὰ δάκρυα τῆς θυγατρὸς αὐτῆς, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ, θάρσει τέκνον, ὁ Κύριος τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καὶ τῆς ¹⁸ γῆς δώῃ σοι χάριν ἀντὶ τῆς λύπης σου ταύτης, θάρσει θυγάτερ.

⁹ Ὅτε δὲ συνετέλεσαν δειπνοῦντες, εἰσήγαγον Τωβίαν πρὸς ⁸ αὐτήν. Ὁ δὲ πορευόμενος ἐμνήσθη τῶν λόγων Ῥαφαὴλ, καὶ ² ἔλαβε τὴν τέφραν τῶν θυμιαμάτων, καὶ ἐπέθηκε τὴν καρδίαν τοῦ ἰχθύος καὶ τὸ ἥπαρ, καὶ ἐκάπνισεν. Ὅτε δὲ ὡσφράνθη τὸ ³ δαιμόνιον τῆς ὁσμῆς, ἔφυγεν εἰς τὰ ἀνώτατα Αἰγύπτου, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτὸ ὁ ἄγγελος.

⁴ Ὡς δὲ συνεκλείσθησαν ἀμφότεροι, ἀνέστη Τωβίας ἀπὸ τῆς ⁴ κλίνης, καὶ εἶπεν, ἀνάστηθι ἀδελφὴ, καὶ προσευξώμεθα ἵνα ἐλεήσῃ ἡμᾶς ὁ Κύριος. Καὶ ἤρξατο Τωβίας λέγειν, εὐλογη- ⁵ τὸς εἶ ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, καὶ εὐλογητὸν τὸ ὄνομά σου τὸ ἅγιον καὶ ἔνδοξον εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας· εὐλογησάτωσάν σε οἱ οὐρανοὶ, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ κτίσεις σου. Σὺ ἐποίησας Ἀδὰμ, καὶ ⁶ ἔδωκας αὐτῷ βοηθὸν Ἐῦαν στήριγμα τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ· ἐκ τούτων ἐγενήθη τὸ ἀνθρώπων σπέρμα· σὺ εἶπας, ὦ καλὸν εἶναι τὸν ἄνθρωπον μόνον, ποιήσωμεν αὐτῷ βοηθὸν ὅμοιον αὐτῷ. Καὶ νῦν, Κύριε, οὐ διὰ πορνείαν ἐγὼ λαμβάνω τὴν ⁷ ἀδελφὴν μου ταύτην, ἀλλὰ ἐπ' ἀληθείας ἐπίταξον ἐλεῆσαί με, καὶ αὐτῇ συγκαταγῆραι. Καὶ εἶπε μετ' αὐτοῦ, ἀμήν. ⁸

Καὶ ἐκοιμήθησαν ἀμφότεροι τὴν νύκτα· καὶ ἀναστὰς Ῥα- ⁹ γουὴλ ἐπορεύθη, καὶ ὤρυξε τάφον, λέγων, μὴ καὶ οὗτος ἀπο- ¹⁰ θάνῃ; Καὶ ἦλθε Ῥαγουὴλ εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ ^{11, 12} εἶπεν Ἐδνα τῇ γυναικὶ αὐτοῦ, ἀπόστειλον μίαν τῶν παιδισκῶν, καὶ ἰδέτωσαν εἰ ζῇ. εἰ δὲ μὴ, ἵνα θάψωμεν αὐτὸν, καὶ μηδεὶς γνῶ. Καὶ εἰσῆλθεν ἡ παιδίσκη ἀνοίξασα τὴν θύραν, καὶ ¹³ εὗρε τοὺς δύο καθεύδοντας, καὶ ἐξελθοῦσα ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτοῖς, ¹⁴ ὅτι ζῇ.

Καὶ εὐλόγησε Ῥαγουὴλ τὸν Θεὸν, λέγων, εὐλογητὸς εἶ σὺ ¹⁵ ὁ Θεὸς ἐν πάσῃ εὐλογίᾳ καθαρᾷ καὶ ἁγίᾳ· καὶ εὐλογεῖτωσάν σε οἱ ἅγιοί σου, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ κτίσεις σου, καὶ πάντες οἱ ἄγγε- ¹⁶ λοί σου, καὶ οἱ ἐκλεκτοί σου· εὐλογεῖτωσάν σε εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, ὅτι ἠψῆφράς με, καὶ οὐκ ἐγένετό ¹⁶ μοι καθὼς ὑπενόουν, ἀλλὰ κατὰ τὸ πολὺ ἔλεός σου ἐποίησας μεθ' ἡμῶν. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ, ὅτι ἠλέησας δύο μονογενεῖς· ποί- ¹⁷ ησον αὐτοῖς, δέσποτα, ἔλεος, συντέλεσον τὴν ζωὴν αὐτῶν ἐν ¹⁷ ὑγιείᾳ μετ' εὐφροσύνης καὶ ἐλέους. Ἐκέλευσε δὲ τοῖς οἰκέταις ¹⁸ χῶσαι τὸν τάφον.

Καὶ ἐποίησεν αὐτοῖς γάμον ἡμερῶν δεκατεσσάρων. Καὶ ^{19, 20} εἶπεν αὐτῷ Ῥαγουὴλ, πρὶν ἢ συντελεσθῆναι τὰς ἡμέρας τοῦ γάμου, ἐνόρκως, μὴ ἐξελθεῖν αὐτὸν ἐὰν μὴ πληρωθῶσιν αἱ ²¹ δεκατέσσαρες ἡμέραι τοῦ γάμου, καὶ τότε λαβόντα τὸ ἥμισυ ²¹ τῶν ὑπαρχόντων αὐτοῦ πορεύεσθαι μεθ' ὑγιείας πρὸς τὸν πατέρα, καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ ὅταν ἀποθάνω, καὶ ἡ γυνή μου.

Καὶ ἐκάλεσε Τωβίας τὸν Ῥαφαὴλ, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, ⁹ Ἀζαρία ἀδελφε, λάβε μετὰ σεαυτοῦ παῖδα καὶ δύο καμήλους, ² καὶ πορεύθητι ἐν Ῥάγοις τῆς Μηδίας παρὰ Γαβαὴλ, καὶ κόμι-

- 3 σαί μοι τὸ ἀργύριον, καὶ αὐτὸν ἄγε μοι εἰς τὸν γάμον, διότι
4 ὁμώμοκε Ῥαγουήλ, μὴ ἐξελθεῖν με. Καὶ ὁ πατήρ μου ἀριθμῶ
5 τὰς ἡμέρας, καὶ ἐὰν χρονίσω μέγα, ὀδυνηθήσεται λίαν. Καὶ
ἐπορεύθη Ῥαφαήλ, καὶ ἠγλίσθη παρὰ Γαβαήλ, καὶ ἔδωκεν
αὐτῷ τὸ χειρόγραφον· ὃς δὲ προήνεγκε τὰ θυλάκια ἐν ταῖς
σφραγίσιν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ.
6 Καὶ ὤρθρευσαν κοινῶς, καὶ ἦλθον εἰς τὸν γάμον· καὶ εὐλό-
γησε Τωβίας τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ.
10 Καὶ Τωβίτ ὁ πατήρ αὐτοῦ ἐλογίσατο ἐκάστης ἡμέρας· καὶ
2 ὡς ἐπληρώθησαν αἱ ἡμέραι τῆς πορείας, καὶ οὐκ ἦρχετο, εἶπε
μήποτε κατήσχυνται; ἢ μήποτε ἀπέθανε Γαβαήλ, καὶ οὐδεὶς
3, 4 αὐτῷ δίδωσι τὸ ἀργύριον; Καὶ ἐλυπείτο λίαν. Εἶπε δὲ
αὐτῷ ἡ γυνή, ἀπώλετο τὸ παιδίον, διότι κεχρόνικε· καὶ ἦρξατο
5 θρηνεῖν αὐτὸν, καὶ εἶπεν, οὐ μέλει μοι, τέκνον, ὅτι ἀφῆκά σε
τὸ φῶς τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν μου.
6 Καὶ Τωβίτ λέγει αὐτῇ, σίγα, μὴ λόγον ἔχε, ὑγιαίνει.
7 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, σίγα, μὴ πλάνα με, ἀπώλετο τὸ παιδίον μου·
καὶ ἐπορεύετο καθ' ἡμέραν εἰς τὴν ὁδὸν ἔξω, οἷας ἀπῆλθεν
ἡμέρας τε ἄρτον οὐκ ἦσθιε, τὰς δὲ νύκτας οὐ διελίμπανε θρη-
νοῦσα Τωβίαν τὸν υἱὸν αὐτῆς, ἕως οὗ συνετελέσθησαν αἱ
δεκατέσσαρες ἡμέραι τοῦ γάμου, ὥς ὥμοσε Ῥαγουήλ ποιῆσαι
8 αὐτὸν ἐκεῖ· εἶπε δὲ Τωβίας τῷ Ῥαγουήλ, ἔξαπόστειλόν με,
ὅτι ὁ πατήρ μου καὶ ἡ μήτηρ μου οὐκέτι ἐλπίζουσιν ὄψεσθαι
9 με. Εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ ὁ πενθερὸς, μένινον παρ' ἐμοί, καὶ γὰρ ἐξαπο-
στελῶ πρὸς τὸν πατέρα σου, καὶ δηλώσουσιν αὐτῷ τὰ κατὰ
10 σε. Καὶ Τωβίας λέγει, ἔξαπόστειλόν με πρὸς τὸν πατέρα
μου.
11 Ἀναστὰς δὲ Ῥαγουήλ, ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ Σάρραν τὴν γυναῖκα
αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὸ ἥμισυ τῶν ὑπαρχόντων, σώματα καὶ κτήνη καὶ
12 ἀργύριον, καὶ εὐλογήσας αὐτοὺς ἔξαπέστειλε, λέγων, εὐδοῶσει
13 ὑμᾶς τέκνα ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ οὐρανοῦ πρὸ τοῦ με ἀποθανεῖν. Καὶ
εἶπε τῇ θυγατρὶ αὐτοῦ, τίμα τοὺς πενθεροὺς σου, αὐτοὶ νῦν
γονεῖς σου εἰσὶν, ἀκούσαιμί σου ἀκοὴν καλήν· καὶ ἐφίλησεν
αὐτήν· καὶ Ἔδνα εἶπε πρὸς Τωβίαν, ἀδελφεῖ ἀγαπητέ, ἀπο-
καταστήσαι σε ὁ Κύριος τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, καὶ δώη μοι ἰδεῖν σου
παιδιά ἐκ Σάρρας τῆς θυγατρὸς μου, ἵνα εὐφρανθῶ ἐνώπιον
τοῦ Κυρίου· καὶ ἰδοὺ παρατίθεμαί σοι τὴν θυγατέρα μου ἐν
παρακαταθήκῃ, καὶ μὴ λυπήσῃς αὐτήν.
1 Μετὰ ταῦτα ἐπορεύετο καὶ Τωβίας εὐλογῶν τὸν Θεόν, ὅτι
εὐώδωσε τὴν ὁδὸν αὐτοῦ· καὶ κατευλόγει Ῥαγουήλ, καὶ Ἔδναν
τὴν γυναῖκα αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπορεύετο μέχρις οὗ ἐγγίσει αὐτοὺς εἰς
Νινευή.
11 Καὶ εἶπε Ῥαφαήλ πρὸς Τωβίαν, οὐ γινώσκεις, ἀδελφεῖ,
2, 3 πῶς ἀφῆκας τὸν πατέρα σου; Προδράμωμεν ἔμπροσθεν τῆς
4 γυναικὸς σου, καὶ ἐτοιμάσωμεν τὴν οἰκίαν· λάβε δὲ παρὰ
χείρα τὴν χολὴν τοῦ ἰχθύος· καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν, καὶ συνήλθεν
5 ὁ κύων ὀπισθεν αὐτῶν. Καὶ Ἄννα ἐκάθητο περιβλεπομένη εἰς
6 τὴν ὁδὸν τὸν παῖδα αὐτῆς. Καὶ προσεινόησεν αὐτὸν ἐρχό-
μενον, καὶ εἶπε τῷ πατρὶ αὐτοῦ, ἰδοὺ ὁ υἱὸς μου ἔρχεται, καὶ
ὁ ἄνθρωπος ὁ πορευθεὶς μετ' αὐτοῦ.
7 Καὶ Ῥαφαήλ εἶπεν, ἐπίσταμαι ἐγὼ, ὅτι ἀνοίξει τοὺς ὀφ-
8 θαλμοὺς ὁ πατήρ σου. Σὺ ἔγχρισον τὴν χολὴν εἰς τοὺς ὀφθαλ-

money, and bring him to the wedding.
3 For Raguel hath sworn that I shall not depart.
4 But my father counteth the days; and if I tarry long, he will be very sorry.
5 So Raphael went out, and lodged with Gabael, and gave him the handwriting: who brought forth bags which were sealed up, and gave them to him.

6 And early in the morning they went forth both together, and came to the wedding: and Tobias blessed his wife.

Now Tobit his father counted every day: and when the days of the journey were expired, and they came not, 2 then Tobit said, Are they detained? or is Gabael dead, and there is no man to give him the money? 3 Therefore he was very sorry. 4 Then his wife said unto him, My son is dead, seeing he stayeth long; and she began to bewail him, and said, 5 Now I care for nothing, my son, since I have let thee go, the light of mine eyes.

6 To whom Tobit said, Hold thy peace, take no care, for he is safe. 7 But she said, Hold thy peace, and deceive me not; my son is dead. And she went out every day into the way which they went, and did eat no meat in the daytime, and ceased not whole nights to bewail her son Tobias, until the fourteen days of the wedding were expired, which Raguel had sworn that he should spend there. Then Tobias said to Raguel, 8 Let me go, for my father and my mother look no more to see me. 9 But his father in law said unto him, Tarry with me, and I will send to thy father, and they shall declare unto him how things go with thee. 10 But Tobias said, No; but let me go to my father.

11 Then Raguel arose, and gave him Sara his wife, and half his goods, servants, and cattle, and money: 12 and he blessed them, and sent them away, saying, The God of heaven give you a prosperous journey, my children. 13 And he said to his daughter, Honour thy father and thy mother in law, which are now thy parents, that I may hear good report of thee. And he kissed her. Edna also said to Tobias, The Lord of heaven restore thee, my dear brother, and grant that I may see thy children of my daughter Sara before I die, that I may rejoice before the Lord: behold, I commit my daughter unto thee, of special trust; wherefore do not entreat her evil.

1 After these things Tobias went his way, praising God that he had given him a prosperous journey, and blessed Raguel and Edna his wife, and went on his way till they drew near unto Nineve.

2 Then Raphael said to Tobias, Dost thou not know, brother, how thou didst leave thy father? 3 let us haste before thy wife, and prepare the house; 4 and take in thine hand the gall of the fish. So they went their way, and the dog went after them. 5 Now Anna sat looking about toward the way for her son. 6 And when she espied him coming, she said to his father, Behold, thy son cometh, and the man that went with him.

7 Then said Raphael, I know, Tobias, that thy father will open his eyes. 8 Therefore anoint thou his eyes with the gall, and

being pricked therewith, he shall rub, and the whiteness shall fall away, and he shall see thee.

⁹ Then Anna ran forth, and fell upon the neck of her son, and said unto him, Seeing I have seen thee, my son, from henceforth I am content to die. And they wept both. ¹⁰ Tobit also went forth toward the door, and stumbled: but his son ran unto him, and took hold of his father: and he strake of the gall on his father's eyes, saying, Be of good hope, my father. ¹¹ And when his eyes began to smart, he rubbed them; ¹² and the whiteness pilled away from the corners of his eyes: and when he saw his son, he fell upon his neck.

¹³ And he wept, and said, Blessed art thou, O God, and blessed is thy name for ever; and blessed are all thine holy angels: ¹⁴ for thou hast scourged, and hast taken pity on me: for, behold, I see my son Tobias. And his son went in rejoicing, and told his father the great things that had happened to him in Media.

¹⁵ Then Tobit went out to meet his daughter in law at the gate of Nineve, rejoicing, and praising God: and they which saw him go marvelled, because he had received his sight. ¹⁶ But Tobit gave thanks before them, because God had mercy on him. And when he came near to Sara his daughter in law, he blessed her, saying, Thou art welcome, daughter: God be blessed, which hath brought thee unto us, and *blessed be thy father and thy mother*. And there was joy among all his brethren which were at Nineve. ¹⁷ And Achiacharus, and Nasbas his brother's son, came: ¹⁸ and Tobias' wedding was kept seven days with great joy.

Then Tobit called his son Tobias, and said unto him, My son, see that the man have his wages, which went with thee, and thou must give him more. ² And Tobias said unto him, O father, it is no harm to me to give him half of those things which I have brought: ³ for he hath brought me again to thee in safety, and made whole my wife, and brought me the money, and likewise healed thee.

⁴ Then the old man said, It is due unto him. ⁵ So he called the angel, and he said unto him, Take half of all that ye have brought, and go away in safety. ⁶ Then he took them both apart, and said unto them, Bless God, praise him, and magnify him, and praise him for the things which he hath done unto you in the sight of all that live. It is good to praise God, and exalt his name, and honourably to shew forth the works of God; therefore be not slack to praise him. ⁷ It is good to keep close the secret of a king, but it is honourable to reveal the works of God. Do that which is good, and no evil shall touch you. ⁸ Prayer is good with fasting and alms and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with unrighteousness. It is better to give alms than to lay up gold: ⁹ for alms doth deliver from death, and shall purge away all sin. Those that exercise alms and righteousness shall be filled with life: ¹⁰ but they that sin are enemies to their own life.

¹¹ Surely I will keep close nothing from you. For I said, It was good to keep close

μοὺς αὐτοῦ, καὶ δηχθεὶς διατρίψει, καὶ ἀποβαλεῖται τὰ λευκώματα, καὶ ὄψεται σε.

Καὶ προσδραμούσα Ἄννα ἐπέπεσεν ἐπὶ τὸν τράχηλον τοῦ 9
υἱοῦ αὐτῆς, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, εἰδὸν σε παιδίον, ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν ἀπο-
θανοῦμαι· καὶ ἔκλαυσαν ἄμφότεροι. Καὶ Τωβίτ ἐξήρχετο 10
πρὸς τὴν θύραν, καὶ προσέκοπτεν· ὁ δὲ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ προσέδραμεν
αὐτῷ, καὶ ἐπελάβετο τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ προσέπασε τὴν 11
χολὴν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, λέγων, θάρσει
πάτερ. Ὡς δὲ συνεδήχθησαν, διέτριψε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ, 12
καὶ ἐλεπίσθη ἀπὸ τῶν κἀνθων τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν αὐτοῦ τὰ λευ- 13
κώματα· καὶ ἰδὼν τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ ἐπέπεσεν ἐπὶ τὸν τράχηλον
αὐτοῦ,

Καὶ ἔκλαυσε, καὶ εἶπεν, εὐλογητὸς εἶ ὁ Θεὸς, καὶ εὐλογητὸν 14
τὸ ὄνομά σου εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας, καὶ εὐλογημένοι πάντες οἱ ἅγιοί
σου ἄγγελοι, ὅτι ἐμαστίγωσας καὶ ἠλέησάς με· ἰδοὺ βλέπω 15
Τωβίαν τὸν υἱόν μου· καὶ εἰσῆλθεν ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ χαίρων, καὶ
ἀπήγγειλε τῷ πατρὶ αὐτοῦ τὰ μεγαλεῖα τὰ γενόμενα αὐτῷ ἐν
τῇ Μηδίᾳ.

Καὶ ἐξῆλθε Τωβίτ εἰς συνάντησιν τῇ νύμφῃ αὐτοῦ χαίρων 16
καὶ εὐλογῶν τὸν Θεὸν πρὸς τῇ πύλῃ Νινευῆ· καὶ ἐθαύμαζον οἱ
θεωροῦντες αὐτὸν πορευόμενον, ὅτι ἔβλεψε. Καὶ Τωβίτ ἐξ- 17
ωμολογεῖτο ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ, ὅτι ἠλέησεν αὐτοὺς ὁ Θεός· καὶ ὡς
ἤγγισε Τωβίτ Σάρρα τῇ νύμφῃ αὐτοῦ, κατευλόγησεν αὐτήν,
λέγων, ἔλθοις ὑγιαίνουσα θύγατερ· εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεός, ὃς ἤγαγέ
σε πρὸς ἡμᾶς, καὶ ὁ πατήρ σου καὶ ἡ μήτηρ σου· καὶ ἐγένετο
χαρὰ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν Νινευῇ ἀδελφοῖς αὐτοῦ. Καὶ παρεγένετο 18
Ἀχιάχαρος, καὶ Νασβὰς ὁ ἐξ ἀδελφῶν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἦχθη ὁ γάμος 19
Τωβία μετ' εὐφροσύνης ἡμέρας ἑπτὰ.

Καὶ ἐκάλεσε Τωβίτ Τωβίαν τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· 12
ὄρα, τέκνον, μισθὸν τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ τῷ συνελθόντι σοι· καὶ προσ-
θεῖναι αὐτῷ δεῖ. Καὶ εἶπε, πάτερ, οὐ βλάπτομαι δούς αὐτῷ 2
τὸ ἥμισυ ὧν ἐνήνοχα, ὅτι με ἀγήοχέ σοι ὑγίη, καὶ τὴν γυναῖκά 3
μου ἐθεράπευσε, καὶ τὸ ἀργύριόν μου ἤνεγκε, καὶ σὲ ὁμοίως
ἐθεράπευσε.

Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ πρεσβύτερος, δικαιοῦται αὐτῷ. Καὶ ἐκάλεσε 4, 5
τὸν ἄγγελον, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, λάβε τὸ ἥμισυ πάντων ὧν ἐνήνο-
χατε, καὶ ὑπαγε ὑγιαίνων. Τότε καλέσας τοὺς δύο κρυπτῶς, 6
εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, εὐλογεῖτε τὸν Θεόν, καὶ αὐτῷ ἐξομολογεῖσθε, καὶ
μεγαλωσύνην δίδοτε αὐτῷ, καὶ ἐξομολογεῖσθε αὐτῷ ἐνώπιον
πάντων τῶν ζώντων περὶ ὧν ἐποίησε μεθ' ὑμῶν· ἀγαθὸν τὸ
εὐλογεῖν τὸν Θεόν, καὶ ὑψοῦν τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, τοὺς λόγους τῶν
ἔργων τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐντίμως ὑποδεικνύοντες· καὶ μὴ ὀκνεῖτε ἐξ-
ομολογεῖσθαι αὐτῷ. Μυστήριον βασιλέως καλὸν κρύψαι, τὰ 7
δὲ ἔργα τοῦ Θεοῦ ἀνακαλύπτειν ἐνδόξως· ἀγαθὸν ποιήσατε, καὶ
κακὸν οὐχ εὐρήσει ὑμᾶς. Ἀγαθὸν προσευχὴ μετὰ νηστείας 8
καὶ ἐλεημοσύνης καὶ δικαιοσύνης· ἀγαθὸν τὸ ὀλίγον μετὰ
δικαιοσύνης, ἢ πολὺ μετὰ ἀδικίας· καλὸν ποιῆσαι ἐλεημοσύνην
ἢ θησαυρίσαι χρυσίον. Ἐλεημοσύνη γὰρ ἐκ θανάτου ῥύεται, 9
καὶ αὕτη ἀποκαθαριεῖ πᾶσαν ἁμαρτίαν· οἱ ποιοῦντες ἐλεημοσύ-
νας καὶ δικαιοσύνας πλησθήσονται ζωῆς. Οἱ δὲ ἁμαρτάνοντες 10
πολέμοι εἰσι τῆς ἑαυτῶν ζωῆς.

Οὐ μὴ κρύψω ἀφ' ὑμῶν πᾶν ῥῆμα· εἶρηκα δὲ, μυστήριον 11

βασιλέως κρύψαι καλὸν, τὰ δὲ ἔργα τοῦ Θεοῦ ἀνακαλύπτειν
12 ἐνδόξως. Καὶ νῦν ὅτε προσηύξω σὺ καὶ ἡ νύμφη σου Σάρρα,
ἐγὼ προσήγαγον τὸ μνημόσυνον τῆς προσευχῆς ὑμῶν ἐνώπιον
τοῦ ἁγίου· καὶ ὅτε ἔθαπτες τοὺς νεκροὺς, ὡσαύτως συμπαρ-
13 ἤμην σοι. Καὶ ὅτε οὐκ ὤκνησας ἀναστῆναι καὶ καταλιπεῖν
τὸ ἄριστόν σου, ὅπως ἀπελθὼν περιστείλῃς τὸν νεκρὸν, οὐκ
14 ἔλαθές με ἀγαθοποιῶν, ἀλλὰ σὺν σοὶ ἤμην. Καὶ νῦν ἀπέ-
στειλέ με ὁ Θεὸς ἰάσασθαί σε καὶ τὴν νύμφην σου Σάρραν.
15 Ἐγὼ εἰμι Ῥαφαήλ, εἷς ἐκ τῶν ἑπτὰ ἁγίων ἀγγέλων οἱ προσ-
αναφέρουσι τὰς προσευχὰς τῶν ἁγίων, καὶ εἰσπορεύονται
ἐνώπιον τῆς δόξης τοῦ ἁγίου.

16 Καὶ ἐταράχθησαν οἱ δύο, καὶ ἔπεσον ἐπὶ πρόσωπον, ὅτι
17 ἐφοβήθησαν. Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, μὴ φοβεῖσθε, εἰρήνη ὑμῖν
18 ἔσται· τὸν δὲ Θεὸν εὐλογεῖτε εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, ὅτι οὐ τῇ ἑμαυτοῦ
χάρτι, ἀλλὰ τῇ θελήσει τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν ἦλθον, ὅθεν εὐλογεῖτε
19 αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας ὠπτανόμην ὑμῖν, καὶ
20 οὐκ ἔφαγον οὐδὲ ἔπιον, ἀλλὰ ὄρασιν ὑμεῖς ἐθεωρεῖτε. Καὶ
νῦν ἐξομολογείσθε τῷ Θεῷ, διότι ἀναβαίνω πρὸς τὸν ἀποστεί-
λαντά με, καὶ γράψατε πάντα τὰ συντελεσθέντα εἰς βιβλίον.
21, 22 Καὶ ἀνέστησαν, καὶ οὐκ ἔτι εἶδον αὐτόν. Καὶ ἐξωμολο-
γούντο τὰ ἔργα τὰ μεγάλα καὶ θαυμαστὰ αὐτοῦ, ὡς ὥφθη
αὐτοῖς ὁ ἄγγελος Κυρίου.

13 Καὶ Τωβίτ ἐγράψε προσευχὴν εἰς ἀγαλλίασιν, καὶ εἶπεν,

Εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεὸς ὁ ζῶν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας, καὶ ἡ βασιλεία
2 αὐτοῦ, ὅτι αὐτὸς μαστιγοῖ καὶ ἐλεεῖ, κατὰγει εἰς ἄδην καὶ
3 ἀνάγει, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὃς ἐκφεύξεται τὴν χεῖρα αὐτοῦ. Ἐξομο-
λογείσθε αὐτῷ οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἐνώπιον τῶν ἐθνῶν, ὅτι αὐτὸς
4 διέσπειρεν ἡμᾶς ἐν αὐτοῖς. Ἐκεῖ ὑποδείξατε τὴν μεγαλωσύνην
αὐτοῦ, ὑψοῦτε αὐτὸν ἐνώπιον παντὸς ζῶντος, καθότι αὐτὸς
Κύριος ἡμῶν, καὶ Θεὸς αὐτὸς πατὴρ ἡμῶν εἰς πάντας τοὺς
5 αἰῶνας. Καὶ μαστιγώσει ἡμᾶς ἐν ταῖς ἀδικίαις ἡμῶν, καὶ
πάλιν ἐλεήσει, καὶ συναξει ἡμᾶς ἐκ πάντων τῶν ἐθνῶν, οὗ ἔαν
σκορπισθῇτε ἐν αὐτοῖς.

6 Ἐὰν ἐπιστρέψῃτε πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐν ὅλῃ τῇ καρδίᾳ ὑμῶν, καὶ ἐν
ὅλῃ τῇ ψυχῇ ὑμῶν, ποιῆσαι ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ ἀλήθειαν, τότε
ἐπιστρέψει πρὸς ὑμᾶς, καὶ οὐ μὴ κρύψει τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ
ἀφ' ὑμῶν· καὶ θεάσασθε ἃ ποιήσει μεθ' ὑμῶν, καὶ ἐξομολογή-
σασθε αὐτῷ ἐν ὅλῳ τῷ στόματι ὑμῶν, καὶ εὐλογήσατε τὸν
Κύριον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ ὑψώσατε τὸν βασιλέα τῶν αἰώνων·
ἐγὼ ἐν τῇ γῇ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας μου ἐξομολογοῦμαι αὐτῷ, καὶ
δεικνύω τὴν ἰσχύν καὶ τὴν μεγαλωσύνην αὐτοῦ ἔθνεϊ ἁμαρτωλῶν·
ἐπιστρέψατε ἁμαρτωλοὶ, καὶ ποιήσατε δικαιοσύνην ἐνώπιον
αὐτοῦ· τίς γινώσκει εἰ θελήσει ὑμᾶς, καὶ ποιήσει ἐλεημοσύ-
νην ὑμῖν;

7 Τὸν Θεόν μου ὑψῶ, καὶ ἡ φυχή μου τῷ βασιλεῖ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ,
8 καὶ ἀγαλλιάσεται τὴν μεγαλωσύνην αὐτοῦ. Λεγέτωσαν πάντες,
καὶ ἐξομολογείσθωσαν αὐτῷ ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις.

9 Ἱεροσόλυμα πόλις ἁγίου, μαστιγώσει ἐπὶ τὰ ἔργα τῶν υἱῶν
10 σου, καὶ πάλιν ἐλεήσει τοὺς υἱοὺς τῶν δικαίων. Ἐξομολογοῦ
τῷ Κυρίῳ ἀγαθῶς, καὶ εὐλόγει τὸν βασιλέα τῶν αἰώνων, ἵνα
πάλιν ἡ σκηνὴ αὐτοῦ οἰκοδομηθῇ ἐν σοὶ μετὰ χαρᾶς· καὶ

the secret of a king, but that it was honour-
able to reveal the works of God. ¹² Now
therefore, when thou didst pray, and Sara
thy daughter in law, I did bring the remem-
brance of your prayers before the Holy
One: and when thou didst bury the dead,
I was with thee likewise. ¹³ And when
thou didst not delay to rise up, and leave
thy dinner, to go and cover the dead, thy
good deed was not hid from me: but I was
with thee. ¹⁴ And now God hath sent me
to heal thee and Sara thy daughter in law.
¹⁵ I am Raphael, one of the seven holy
angels, which present the prayers of the
saints, and which go in and out before the
glory of the Holy One.

¹⁶ Then they were both troubled, and fell
upon their faces: for they feared. ¹⁷ But
he said unto them, Fear not, for it shall go
well with you; praise God therefore. ¹⁸ For
not of any favour of mine, but by the will
of our God I came; wherefore praise him
for ever. ¹⁹ All these days I did appear
unto you; but I did neither eat nor drink,
but ye did see a vision. ²⁰ Now therefore
give God thanks: for I go up to him that
sent me; but write all things which are
done in a book. ²¹ And when they arose,
they saw him no more. ²² Then they con-
fessed the great and wonderful works of
God, and how the angel of the Lord had
appeared unto them.

Then Tobit wrote a prayer of rejoicing,
and said,

Blessed be God that liveth for ever, and
blessed be his kingdom. ² For he doth
scourge, and hath mercy: he leadeth down
to hell, and bringeth up again: neither is
there any that can avoid his hand. ³ Con-
fess him before the Gentiles, ye children of
Israel: for he hath scattered us among
them. ⁴ There declare his greatness, and
extol him before all the living: for he is
our Lord, and he is the God our Father for
ever. ⁵ And he will scourge us for our ini-
quities, and will have mercy again, and will
gather us out of all nations, among whom
he hath scattered us.

⁶ If ye turn to him with your whole heart,
and with your whole mind, and deal upright-
ly before him, then will he turn unto you,
and will not hide his face from you. There-
fore see what he will do with you, and con-
fess him with your whole mouth, and praise
the Lord of might, and extol the everlasting
King. In the land of my captivity do I
praise him, and declare his might and ma-
jesty to a sinful nation. O ye sinners, turn
and do justice before him: who can tell if
he will accept you, and have mercy on you?

⁷ I will extol my God, and my soul shall
praise the King of heaven, and shall rejoice
in his greatness. ⁸ Let all men speak, and
let all praise him for his righteousness.

⁹ O Jerusalem, the holy city, he will scourge
thee for thy children's works, and will have
mercy again on the sons of the righteous.
¹⁰ Give praise to the Lord, for he is good:
and praise the everlasting King, that his ta-
bernacle may be builded in thee again with

joy, and let him make joyful there in thee those that are captives, and love in thee for ever those that are miserable.

¹¹ Many nations shall come from far to the name of the Lord God with gifts in their hands, even gifts to the King of heaven; all generations shall praise thee with great joy.

¹² Cursed are all they which hate thee, and blessed shall all be which love thee for ever.

¹³ Rejoice and be glad for the children of the just: for they shall be gathered together, and shall bless the Lord of the just. ¹⁴ O blessed are they which love thee, for they shall rejoice in thy peace: blessed are they which have been sorrowful for all thy scourges; for they shall rejoice for thee, when they have seen all thy glory, and shall be glad for ever.

¹⁵ Let my soul bless God the great King. ¹⁶ For Jerusalem shall be built up with sapphire, and emerald, and precious stone: thy walls and towers and battlements with pure gold. ¹⁷ And the streets of Jerusalem shall be paved with beryl and carbuncle and stone of Ophir. ¹⁸ And all her streets shall say, Alleluia; and they shall praise him, saying, blessed be God, which hath extolled it for ever.

So Tobit made an end of praising God. ² And he was eight and fifty years old when he lost his sight, which was restored to him after eight years: and he gave alms, and he increased in the fear of the Lord God, and praised him.

³ And when he was very aged, he called his son, and the sons of his son, and said to him, My son, take thy children; for, behold, I am aged, and am ready to depart out of this life. ⁴ Go into Media, my son, for I surely believe those things which Jonas the prophet spake of Nineve, that it shall be overthrown; and that for a time peace shall rather be in Media; and that our brethren shall lie scattered in the earth from that good land: and Jerusalem shall be desolate, and the house of God in it shall be burned, and shall be desolate for a time; ⁵ and that again God will have mercy on them, and bring them again into the land, where they shall build a temple, but not like to the first, until the time of that age be fulfilled; and afterward they shall return from all places of their captivity, and build up Jerusalem gloriously, and the house of God shall be built in it with a glorious building, as the prophets have spoken thereof.

⁶ And all nations shall turn, and fear the Lord God truly, and shall bury their idols.

⁷ So shall all nations praise the Lord, and his people shall confess God, and the Lord shall exalt his people; and all those which love the Lord God in truth and justice shall rejoice, shewing mercy to our brethren.

⁸ And now, my son, depart out of Nineve, because that those things which the prophet Jonas spake shall surely come to pass. ⁹ But keep thou the law and the commandments, and shew thyself merciful and just, that it may go well with thee. ¹⁰ And bury me decently, and thy mother with me; but tarry no longer at Nineve. Remember, my son, how Aman handled Achiacharus that brought him up, how out of light he brought him into darkness, and how he rewarded him again: yet Achiacharus was saved, but

εὐφράναι ἐν σοὶ τοὺς αἰχμαλώτους, καὶ ἀγαπήσαι ἐν σοὶ τοὺς τάλαιπώρους, εἰς πάσας τὰς γενεὰς τοῦ αἰῶνος.

¹¹ Ἔθνη πολλὰ μακρόθεν ἥξει πρὸς τὸ ὄνομα Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ, 11 δῶρα ἐν χερσὶν ἔχοντες, καὶ δῶρα τῷ βασιλεῖ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ· γενεαὶ γενεῶν δώσουσί σοι ἀγαλλίαμα. Ἐπικατάρτοι πάντες 12 οἱ μισοῦντές σε, εὐλογημένοι ἔσονται πάντες οἱ ἀγαπῶντές σε εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Χάρηθι καὶ ἀγαλλίασαι ἐπὶ τοῖς υἱοῖς τῶν 13 δικαίων, ὅτι συναχθήσονται καὶ εὐλογήσουσι τὸν Κύριον τῶν δικαίων. Ὡ μακάριοι οἱ ἀγαπῶντές σε, χαρήσονται ἐπὶ τῇ 14 εἰρήνῃ σου· μακάριοι ὅσοι ἐλυπήθησαν ἐπὶ πάσαις ταῖς μαστιξί σου, ὅτι ἐπὶ σοὶ χαρήσονται θεασάμενοι πᾶσαν τὴν δόξαν σου, καὶ εὐφρανθήσονται εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

¹⁵ Ἡ ψυχὴ μου εὐλογεῖτω τὸν Θεὸν τὸν βασιλέα τὸν μέγαν, 15 ὅτι οἰκοδομηθήσεται Ἱερουσαλὴμ σαπφείρῳ καὶ σμαράγδῳ, 16 καὶ λίθῳ ἐντίμῳ τὰ τείχη σου, καὶ οἱ πύργοι, καὶ οἱ προμαχώνες ἐν χρυσίῳ καθαρῷ, καὶ αἱ πλατεῖαι Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἐν βηρύλλῳ, 17 καὶ ἄνθρακι, καὶ λίθῳ ἐκ Σουφεῖρ ψηφολογηθήσονται. Καὶ 18 ἐροῦσι πᾶσαι αἱ ῥύμαι αὐτῆς ἀλληλουῖα καὶ αἰνεσιν, λέγοντες, εὐλογητὸς ὁ Θεός, ὃς ὕψωσε πάντας τοὺς αἰῶνας.

Καὶ ἐπαύσατο ἐξομολογούμενος Τωβίτ. Καὶ ἦν ἐτῶν πεντη- 14 κονταοκτὼ, ὅτε ἀπώλεσε τὰς ὀψεις, καὶ μετὰ ἑτῆ ὀκτὼ ἀνέβλεψε· 2 καὶ ἐποίει ἐλεημοσύνας· καὶ προσέθετο φοβεῖσθαι Κύριον τὸν Θεόν, καὶ ἐξομολογεῖτο αὐτῷ.

Μεγάλως δὲ ἐγήρασε· καὶ ἐκάλεσε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοὺς 3 υἱοὺς αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, τέκνον, λάβε τοὺς υἱούς σου, ἰδοὺ γεγήρακα, καὶ πρὸς τὸ ἀποτρέχειν ἐκ τοῦ ζῆν εἰμι. Ἀπελθε 4 εἰς τὴν Μηδίαν, τέκνον, ὅτι πέπεισμαι ὅσα ἐλάλησεν Ἰωνᾶς ὁ προφήτης περὶ Νινευῆ, ὅτι καταστραφήσεται· ἐν δὲ τῇ Μηδίᾳ ἔσται εἰρήνη μᾶλλον ἕως καιροῦ· καὶ ὅτι οἱ ἀδελφοὶ ἡμῶν ἐν τῇ γῇ σκορπισθήσονται ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγαθῆς γῆς· καὶ Ἱεροσόλυμα ἔσται ἔρημος, καὶ ὁ οἶκος τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν αὐτῇ κατακαήσεται, καὶ ἔρημος ἔσται μέχρι χρόνου. Καὶ πάλιν ἐλεήσει αὐτοὺς ὁ Θεός, 5 καὶ ἐπιστρέψει αὐτοὺς εἰς τὴν γῆν, καὶ οἰκοδομήσουσι τὸν οἶκον, οὐχ οἶος ὁ πρότερος, ἕως πληρωθῶσι καιροὶ τοῦ αἰῶνος· καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα ἐπιστρέψουσιν ἐκ τῶν αἰχμαλωσιῶν, καὶ οἰκοδομήσουσιν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἐντίμως· καὶ ὁ οἶκος τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν αὐτῇ οἰκοδομηθήσεται ἐνδόξως, καθὼς ἐλάλησαν περὶ αὐτῆς οἱ προφῆται.

Καὶ πάντα τὰ ἔθνη ἐπιστρέψουσιν ἀληθινῶς φοβεῖσθαι 6 Κύριον τὸν Θεόν, καὶ κατορύξουσιν τὰ εἰδωλα αὐτῶν, καὶ 7 εὐλογήσουσι πάντα τὰ ἔθνη Κύριον· καὶ ὁ λαὸς αὐτοῦ ἐξομολογήσεται τῷ Θεῷ· καὶ ὑψώσει Κύριος τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ χαρήσονται πάντες οἱ ἀγαπῶντες Κύριον τὸν Θεόν ἐν ἀληθείᾳ καὶ δικαιοσύνῃ, ποιοῦντες ἔλεος τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς ἡμῶν.

Καὶ νῦν, τέκνον, ἀπελθε ἀπὸ Νινευῆ, ὅτι πάντως ἔσται ἡ 8 ἐλάλησεν ὁ προφήτης Ἰωνᾶς. Σὺ δὲ τήρησον τὸν νόμον καὶ 9 τὰ προστάγματα, καὶ γενοῦ φιλελεήμων καὶ δίκαιος, ἵνα σοι καλῶς ᾖ. Καὶ θάψον με καλῶς, καὶ τὴν μητέρα σου μετ' 10 ἐμοῦ, καὶ μηκέτι αὐλισθήτε εἰς Νινευῆ· τέκνον, ἰδε τί ἐποίησεν Ἀμὰν Ἀχιαχάρῳ τῷ θρέψαντι αὐτὸν, ὡς ἐκ τοῦ φωτὸς ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸ σκότος, καὶ ὅσα ἀνταπέδωκεν αὐτῷ· καὶ Ἀχιαχάρων μὲν ἔσωσεν, ἐκείνῳ δὲ τὸ ἀνταπόδομα ἀπεδόθη, καὶ αὐτὸς

κατέβη εἰς τὸ σκότος. Μανασσῆς ἐποίησεν ἐλεημοσύνην, καὶ ἐσώθη ἐκ παγίδος θανάτου ἧς ἐπηξεν αὐτῷ. Ἀμὰν δὲ ἐνέπεσεν εἰς τὴν παγίδα, καὶ ἀπώλετο.

- 11 Καὶ νῦν, παῖδιά, ἴδετε τί ἐλεημοσύνη ποιεῖ, καὶ δικαιοσύνη ῥύεται· καὶ ταῦτα αὐτοῦ λέγοντος, ἐξέλιπεν ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τῆς κλίνης· ἦν δὲ ἐτῶν ἑκατὸν πεντηκονταοκτώ· καὶ ἔθαιψαν
12 αὐτὸν ἐνδόξως. Καὶ ὅτε ἀπέθανεν Ἀννα, ἔθαψεν αὐτὴν μετὰ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ.

- Ἀπῆλθε δὲ Τωβίας μετὰ τῆς γυναικὸς αὐτοῦ καὶ τῶν υἱῶν
13 αὐτοῦ εἰς Ἐκβάτανα πρὸς Ῥαγουήλ τὸν πενθερὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐγγράσεν ἐντίμως· καὶ ἔθαψε τοὺς πενθεροὺς αὐτοῦ ἐνδόξως, καὶ ἐκληρονόμησε τὴν οὐσίαν αὐτῶν, καὶ Τωβίτ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ.
14 Καὶ ἀπέθανεν ἐτῶν ἑκατὸν εἰκοσιεπτὰ ἐν Ἐκβατάνοισι τῆς
15 Μηδίας. Καὶ ἤκουσε πρηνὴ ἀποθανεῖν αὐτὸν, τὴν ἀπώλειαν Νινευή, ἣν ἤχμαλώτισε Ναβουχοδονόσορ, καὶ Ἀσύηρος, καὶ ἐχάρη πρὸ τοῦ ἀποθανεῖν ἐπὶ Νινευή.

the other had his reward : for he went down into darkness. Manasses gave alms, and escaped the snares of death which they had set for him : but Aman fell into the snare, and perished.

¹¹ Wherefore now, my son, consider what alms doeth, and how righteousness doth deliver. When he had said these things, he gave up the ghost in the bed, being an hundred and eighty and five years old ; and he buried him honourably. ¹² And when Anna his mother was dead, he buried her with his father.

But Tobias departed with his wife and children to Ecbatane to Raguel his father in law, ¹³ where he became old with honour ; and he buried his father and mother in law honourably, and he inherited their substance, and his father Tobit's. ¹⁴ And he died at Ecbatane in Media, being an hundred and seventy and two years old. ¹⁵ But before he died he heard of the destruction of Nineve, which was taken by Nabuchodonosor and Assuerus : and before his death he rejoiced over Nineve.

Ι Ο Υ Δ Ι Θ .

- ἜΤΟΥΣ δωδεκάτου τῆς βασιλείας Ναβουχοδονόσορ, ὃς ἐβασίλευσεν Ἀσσυρίων ἐν Νινευὶ τῇ πόλει τῇ μεγάλῃ, ἐν ταῖς
2 ἡμέραις Ἀρφαξάδ, ὃς ἐβασίλευσε Μήδων ἐν Ἐκβατάνοισι, καὶ ὠκοδόμησεν ἐπ' Ἐκβατάνων, καὶ κύκλῳ τείχη ἐκ λίθων λελαξευμένων, εἰς πλάτος πηχῶν τριῶν, καὶ εἰς μῆκος πηχῶν ἑξ, καὶ ἐποίησε τὸ ὕψος τοῦ τείχους πηχῶν ἑβδομήκοντα, καὶ τὸ πλάτος
3 αὐτοῦ πηχῶν πεντήκοντα, καὶ τοὺς πύργους αὐτοῦ ἔστησεν ἐπὶ ταῖς πύλαις αὐτῆς πηχῶν ἑκατὸν, καὶ τὸ πλάτος αὐτῆς
4 ἐθεμελίωσεν εἰς πήχεις ἑξήκοντα. Καὶ ἐποίησε τὰς πύλας αὐτῆς πύλας διεγειρομένας εἰς ὕψος πηχῶν ἑβδομήκοντα, καὶ τὸ πλάτος αὐτῶν πήχεις τεσσαράκοντα εἰς ἐξόδους δυνάμεων δυνατῶν αὐτοῦ, καὶ διατάξεις τῶν πεζῶν αὐτοῦ.
5 Καὶ ἐποίησε πόλεμον ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις ὁ βασιλεὺς Ναβουχοδονόσορ πρὸς βασιλέα Ἀρφαξάδ ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ τῷ
6 μεγάλῳ, τοῦτό ἐστιν ἐν τοῖς ὁρίοις Ῥαγαῦ. Καὶ συνήντησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες τὴν ὀρεινὴν, καὶ πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες τὸν Εὐφράτην, καὶ τὸν Τίγριν, καὶ τὸν Ὑδάσπην, καὶ πεδίῳ Εἰριῳχ ὁ βασιλεὺς Ἐλυμαίων· καὶ συνήλθον ἔθνη πολλὰ σφόδρα εἰς παράταξιν υἱῶν Χελεούλ.
7 Καὶ ἀπέστειλε Ναβουχοδονόσορ ὁ βασιλεὺς Ἀσσυρίων ἐπὶ πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας τὴν Περσίδα, καὶ ἐπὶ πάντας τοὺς

In the twelfth year of the reign of Nabuchodonosor, who reigned in Nineve, the great city ; in the days of Arphaxad, which reigned over the Medes in Ecbatane, and built in Ecbatane walls round about of stones hewn three cubits broad and six cubits long, and made the height of the wall seventy cubits, and the breadth thereof fifty cubits : and set the towers thereof upon the gates of it, an hundred cubits high, and the breadth thereof in the foundation threescore cubits : and he made the gates thereof, even gates that were raised to the height of seventy cubits, and the breadth of them was forty cubits, for the going forth of his mighty armies, and for the setting in array of his footmen :

⁵ Even in those days king Nabuchodonosor made war with king Arphaxad in the great plain, which is the plain in the borders of Ragau. ⁶ And there came unto him all they that dwelt in the hill country, and all that dwelt by Euphrates, and Tigris, and Hydaspes, and the plain of Arioeh the king of the Elymeans, and very many nations of the sons of Cheleul, assembled themselves to the battle.

⁷ Then Nabuchodonosor king of the Assyrians sent unto all that dwelt in Persia, and to all that dwelt westward, and to those

that dwelt in Cilicia, and Damascus, and Libanus, and Antilibanus, and to all that dwelt upon the sea coast, ⁸and to those among the nations that were of Carmel, and Galaad, and the higher Galilee, and the great plain of Esdrelom, ⁹and to all that were in Samaria and the cities thereof, and beyond Jordan unto Jerusalem, and Betane, and Chellus, and Kades, and the river of Egypt, and Taphnes, and Ramesse, and all the land of Gesem, ¹⁰until ye come beyond Tanis and Memphis, and to all the inhabitants of Egypt, until ye come to the borders of Ethiopia.

¹¹But all the inhabitants of the land made light of the commandment of Nabuchodonosor king of the Assyrians, neither went they with him to the battle; for they were not afraid of him: yea, he was before them as one man, and they sent away his ambassadors from them without effect, and with disgrace. ¹²Therefore Nabuchodonosor was very angry with all this country, and swore by his throne and kingdom, that he would surely be avenged upon all those coasts of Cilicia, and Damascus, and Syria, and that he would slay with the sword all the inhabitants of the land of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and all Judea, and all that were in Egypt, till ye come to the borders of the two seas.

¹³Then he marched in battle array with his power against king Arphaxad in the seventeenth year, and he prevailed in his battle: for he overthrew all the power of Arphaxad, and all his horsemen, and all his chariots, ¹⁴and became lord of his cities, and came unto Ecbatane, and took the towers, and spoiled the streets thereof, and turned the beauty thereof into shame. ¹⁵He took also Arphaxad in the mountains of Ragau, and smote him through with his darts, and destroyed him utterly that day.

¹⁶So he returned afterward to Nineve, both he and all his company of sundry nations, being a very great multitude of men of war, and there he took his ease, and banqueted, both he and his army, an hundred and twenty days.

And in the eighteenth year, the two and twentieth day of the first month, there was talk in the house of Nabuchodonosor king of the Assyrians, that he should, as he said, avenge himself on all the earth. ²So he called unto him all his officers, and all his nobles, and communicated with them his secret counsel, and concluded the afflicting of the whole earth out of his own mouth. ³Then they decreed to destroy all flesh, that did not obey the commandment of his mouth.

⁴And when he had ended his counsel, Nabuchodonosor king of the Assyrians called Holofernes the chief captain of his army, which was next unto him, and said unto him, ⁵Thus saith the great king, the lord of the whole earth, Behold, thou shalt go forth from my presence, and take with thee men that trust in their own strength, of footmen an hundred and twenty thousand; and the number of horses with their riders twelve thousand. ⁶And thou shalt go against all the west country, because they disobeyed my commandment: ⁷and thou shalt declare unto them, that they prepare for me earth

κατοικοῦντας πρὸς δυσμαῖς, τοὺς κατοικοῦντας Κιλικίαν καὶ Δαμασκὸν, τὸν Λίβανον καὶ Ἀντιλίβανον, καὶ πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας κατὰ πρόσωπον παραλίας, καὶ τοὺς ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσι ⁸τοῦ Καρμήλου, καὶ Γαλαὰδ, καὶ τὴν ἄνω Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ τὸ μέγα πεδῖον Ἐσδρηλὼμ, καὶ πάντας τοὺς ἐν Σαμαρείᾳ καὶ ταῖς ⁹πόλεσιν αὐτῆς, καὶ πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου ἕως Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ Βετάνη, καὶ Χελλούς, καὶ Κάδης, καὶ τοῦ ποταμοῦ Αἰγύπτου, καὶ Ταφνὰς, καὶ Ῥαμεσσὴ, καὶ πᾶσαν γῆν Γεσὲμ ἕως τοῦ ¹⁰ἐλθεῖν ἐπάνω Τάνεως καὶ Μέμφεως, καὶ πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας τὴν Αἴγυπτον ἕως τοῦ ἐλθεῖν ἐπὶ τὰ ὅρια τῆς Αἰθιοπίας.

Καὶ ἐφαύλισαν πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν τὸ ¹¹ῥῆμα Ναβουχοδονόσορ τοῦ βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων, καὶ οὐ συνῆλθον αὐτῷ εἰς τὸν πόλεμον, ὅτι οὐκ ἐφοβήθησαν αὐτὸν, ἀλλ ἦν ἐναντίον αὐτῶν ὡς ἀνὴρ ἴσος· καὶ ἀνέστρεψαν τοὺς ἀγγέλους αὐτοῦ κενοὺς ἐν ἀτιμίᾳ πρὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐθυμώθη ¹²Ναβουχοδονόσορ ἐπὶ πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ταύτην σφόδρα, καὶ ὤμοσε κατὰ τοῦ θρόνου καὶ τῆς βασιλείας αὐτοῦ, εἰ μὴν ἐκδικήσῃν πάντα τὰ ὅρια τῆς Κιλικίας καὶ Δαμασκηνῆς καὶ Συρίας, ἀνελεῖν τῇ ῥομφαίᾳ αὐτοῦ καὶ πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας ἐν γῇ Μωὰβ, καὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἀμμὼν, καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, καὶ πάντας τοὺς ἐν Αἰγύπτῳ ἕως τοῦ ἐλθεῖν ἐπὶ τὰ ὅρια τῶν δύο θαλασσῶν.

Καὶ παρετάξατο ἐν τῇ δυνάμει αὐτοῦ πρὸς Ἀρφαξὰδ βασιλέα ¹³ἐν τῷ ἔτει τῷ ἑπτακαιδεκάτῳ, καὶ ἐκραταιώθη ἐν τῷ πολέμῳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀνέστρεψε πᾶσαν τὴν δύναμιν Ἀρφαξὰδ, καὶ πᾶσαν τὴν ἵππον αὐτοῦ, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἄρματα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐκυρίευσεν ¹⁴τῶν πόλεων αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἀφίκετο ἕως Ἐκβατάνων, καὶ ἐκράτησε τῶν πύργων, καὶ ἐπρονόμεισε τὰς πλατείας αὐτῆς, καὶ τὸν κόσμον αὐτῆς ἔθηκεν εἰς ὄνειδος αὐτῆς. Καὶ ἔλαβε τὸν Ἀρ- ¹⁵φαξὰδ ἐν τοῖς ὄρεσι Ῥαγαῦ, καὶ κατηκόντισεν αὐτὸν ἐν ταῖς ζιβύναις αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐξωλόθρευσεν αὐτὸν ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ἐκείνης.

Καὶ ἀνέστρεψε μετ' αὐτῶν αὐτὸς καὶ πᾶς ὁ σύμμικτος ¹⁶αὐτοῦ, πλήθος ἀνδρῶν πολεμιστῶν πολὺ σφόδρα· καὶ ἦν ἐκεῖ ῥαθυμῶν καὶ εὐωχούμενος αὐτὸς καὶ ἡ δυνάμις αὐτοῦ ἐφ' ἡμέρας ἑκατὸν εἴκοσι.

Καὶ ἐν τῷ ἔτει τῷ ὀκτωκαιδεκάτῳ, δευτέρα καὶ εἰκάδι τοῦ ²πρώτου μηνὸς, ἐγένετο λόγος ἐν οἴκῳ Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων, ἐκδικῆσαι πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν καθὼς ἐλάλησε. Καὶ συνεκάλεσε πάντας τοὺς θεράποντας αὐτοῦ, καὶ πάντας ²τοὺς μεγιστᾶνας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔθετο μετ' αὐτῶν τὸ μυστήριον τῆς βουλῆς αὐτοῦ· καὶ συνετέλεσε πᾶσαν τὴν κακίαν τῆς γῆς ἐκ τοῦ στόματος αὐτοῦ· καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔκριναν ὀλοθρεῦσαι πᾶσαν ³σάρκα, οἱ οὐκ ἠκολούθησαν τῷ λόγῳ τοῦ στόματος αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς συνετέλεσε τὴν βουλὴν αὐτοῦ, ἐκάλεσε ⁴Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλεὺς Ἀσσυρίων τὸν Ὀλοφέρνην ἀρχιστράτηγον τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ, δεύτερον ὄντα μετ' αὐτὸν, καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὸν, τάδε λέγει ὁ βασιλεὺς ὁ μέγας, ὁ κύριος ⁵πάσης τῆς γῆς, ἰδοὺ σὺ ἐξελεύσῃ ἐκ τοῦ προσώπου μου, καὶ λήψῃ μετὰ σεαυτοῦ ἄνδρας πεποιθότας ἐν ἰσχύϊ αὐτῶν, πεζῶν εἰς χιλιάδας ἑκατὸν εἴκοσι, καὶ πλήθος ἵππων σὺν ἀναβάταις ⁶μυριάδων δεκαδύο, καὶ ἐξελεύσῃ εἰς συνάντησιν πάσῃ τῇ γῇ ἐπὶ δυσμὰς, ὅτι ἠπείθησαν τῷ ῥήματι τοῦ στόματός μου· καὶ ⁷ἀπαγγελεῖς αὐτοῖς ἐτοιμάζειν γῆν καὶ ὕδωρ, ὅτι ἐξελεύσομαι ἐν

- θυμῷ μου ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, καὶ καλύψω πᾶν τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς γῆς ἐν τοῖς ποσὶ τῆς δυνάμεώς μου· καὶ δώσω αὐτοὺς εἰς διαρπαγὴν
8 αὐτοῖς, καὶ οἱ τραυματαῖαι αὐτῶν πληρώσουσι τὰς φάραγγας καὶ τοὺς χειμάρρους αὐτῶν, καὶ ποταμὸς ἐπικλύζων τοῖς νεκροῖς
9 αὐτῶν πληρωθήσεται· καὶ ἄξω τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν αὐτῶν ἐπὶ τὰ ἄκρα πάσης τῆς γῆς. Σὺ δὲ ἐξέλθων προκαταλήψῃ μοι πᾶν ὄριον αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐκδώσουσί σοι ἑαυτοὺς, καὶ διατηρήσεις ἔμοι αὐτοὺς εἰς ἡμέραν ἐλεγμοῦ αὐτῶν.
11 Ἐπὶ δὲ τοὺς ἀπειθοῦντας οὐ φείσεται ὁ ὀφθαλμός σου, δοῦναι αὐτοὺς εἰς φόνον καὶ ἀρπαγὴν ἐν πάσῃ τῇ γῇ σου.
12 Ὅτι ζῶν ἐγὼ, καὶ τὸ κράτος τῆς βασιλείας μου, λελάληκα, καὶ
13 ποιήσω ταῦτα ἐν χειρὶ μου. Καὶ σὺ δὲ οὐ παραβῆσῃ ἐν τι τῶν ῥημάτων τοῦ κυρίου σου, ἀλλ' ἐπιτελῶν ἐπιτελέσεις, καθότι προστέαχά σοι, καὶ οὐ μακρυνεῖς τοῦ ποιῆσαι αὐτά.
14 Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν Ὀλοφέρνης ἀπὸ προσώπου τοῦ κυρίου αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐκάλεσε πάντας τοὺς δυνάστας, καὶ τοὺς στρατηγοὺς, καὶ
15 ἐπιστάτας τῆς δυνάμεως Ἀσσοῦρ, καὶ ἡρίθμησεν ἐκλεκτοὺς ἄνδρας εἰς παράταξιν, καθότι ἐκέλευσεν αὐτῷ ὁ κύριος αὐτοῦ, εἰς μυριάδας δεκαδύο, καὶ ἱππεῖς τοξότας μυρίους δισχιλίους,
16 καὶ διέταξεν αὐτοὺς ὃν τρόπον πολέμου πλῆθος συντάσσεται.
17 Καὶ ἔλαβε καμήλους καὶ ὄνους καὶ ἡμιόνους εἰς τὴν ἀπαρτίαν αὐτῶν, πλῆθος πολὺ σφόδρα, καὶ πρόβατα καὶ βόας καὶ αἴγας
18 εἰς τὴν παρασκευὴν αὐτῶν, ὧν οὐκ ἦν ἀριθμὸς, καὶ ἐπισιτισμὸν παντὶ ἀνδρὶ εἰς πλῆθος, καὶ χρυσίον καὶ ἀργύριον ἐξ οἴκου βασιλέως πολὺ σφόδρα.
19 Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν αὐτὸς καὶ πᾶσα ἡ δύναμις αὐτοῦ εἰς πορείαν τοῦ προελθεῖν βασιλέως Ναβουχοδονόσορ, καὶ καλύψαι πᾶν τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς γῆς πρὸς δυσμαῖς ἐν ἄρμασι καὶ ἱππεῦσι καὶ
20 πεζοῖς ἐπιλέκτοις αὐτῶν. Καὶ πολὺς ὁ ἐπίμικτος ὡς ἀκρις τυνεξῆλθον αὐτοῖς, καὶ ὡς ἡ ἄμμος τῆς γῆς· οὐ γὰρ ἦν ἀριθμὸς ἀπὸ πλῆθους αὐτῶν.
21 Καὶ ἀπῆλθον ἐκ Νινευὴ ὁδὸν τριῶν ἡμερῶν ἐπὶ πρόσωπον τοῦ πεδίου Βαικτιλαῖθ, καὶ ἐπεστρατοπέδευσεν ἀπὸ Βαικτιλαῖθ
22 πλησίον τοῦ ὄρους τοῦ ἐπ' ἀριστερᾷ τῆς ἄνω Κιλικίας. Καὶ ἔλαβε πᾶσαν τὴν δύναμιν αὐτοῦ, τοὺς πεζοὺς, καὶ τοὺς ἱππεῖς, καὶ τὰ ἄρματα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπῆλθεν ἐκεῖθεν εἰς τὴν ὀρεινὴν.
23 Καὶ διέκοψε τὸ Φοῦδ καὶ Λοῦδ, καὶ ἐπρονόμυσαν πάντας υἱοὺς Ῥασοῖς, καὶ υἱοὺς Ἰσμαὴλ τοὺς κατὰ πρόσωπον τῆς ἐρήμου πρὸς Νότον τῆς Χελλαίων.
24 Καὶ παρῆλθε τὸν Εὐφράτην, καὶ διῆλθε τὴν Μεσοποταμίαν, καὶ διέσκαψε πάσας τὰς πόλεις τὰς ὑψηλὰς τὰς ἐπὶ τοῦ χειμαρροῦ Ἀβρωνᾶ ἕως τοῦ ἐλθεῖν ἐπὶ θάλασσαν.
25 Καὶ κατελάβετο τὰ ὄρια τῆς Κιλικίας, καὶ κατέκοψε πάντας τοὺς ἀντιστάνας αὐτῷ· καὶ ἦλθεν ἕως ὀρίων Ἰάφεθ, τὰ πρὸς Νότον κατὰ πρόσωπον τῆς Ἀραβίας.
26 Καὶ ἐκύκλωσε πάντας τοὺς υἱοὺς Μαδιαν, καὶ ἐνέπρησε τὰ σκηνώματα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπρονόμυσεν τὰς μάνδρας αὐτῶν.
27 Καὶ κατέβη εἰς πεδῖον Δαμασκοῦ ἐν ἡμέραις θερισμοῦ πυρῶν, καὶ ἐνέπρησε πάντας τοὺς ἀγροὺς αὐτῶν· καὶ τὰ ποίμνια καὶ τὰ βουκόλια ἔδωκεν εἰς ἀφανισμόν, καὶ τὰς πόλεις αὐτῶν ἐσκύλευσε, καὶ τὰ πεδία αὐτῶν ἐξέλικμῃσε, καὶ ἐπάταξε πάντας τοὺς νεανίσκους αὐτῶν ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας.

and water: for I will go forth in my wrath against them, and will cover the whole face of the earth with the feet of mine army, and I will give them for a spoil unto them: ⁸ so that their slain shall fill their valleys and brooks, and the river shall be filled with their dead, till it overflow: ⁹ and I will lead them captives to the utmost parts of all the earth. ¹⁰ Thou therefore shalt go forth, and take beforehand for me all their coasts: and if they will yield themselves unto thee, thou shalt reserve them for me till the day of their punishment.

¹¹ But concerning them that rebel, let not thine eye spare them; but put them to the slaughter, and spoil them wheresoever thou goest. ¹² For as I live, and by the power of my kingdom, whatsoever I have spoken, that will I do by mine hand. ¹³ And take thou heed that thou transgress none of the commandments of thy lord, but accomplish them fully, as I have commanded thee, and defer not to do them.

¹⁴ Then Holofernes went forth from the presence of his lord, and called all the governors and captains, and the officers of the army of Assur; ¹⁵ and he mustered the chosen men for the battle, as his lord had commanded him, unto an hundred and twenty thousand, and twelve thousand archers on horseback; ¹⁶ and he ranged them, as a great army is ordered for the war. ¹⁷ And he took camels and asses for their carriages, a very great number; and sheep and oxen and goats without number for their provision: ¹⁸ and plenty of victual for every man of the army, and very much gold and silver out of the king's house.

¹⁹ Then he went forth and all his power to go before king Nabuchodonosor in the voyage, and to cover all the face of the earth westward with their chariots, and horsemen and their chosen footmen. ²⁰ A great number also of sundry countries came with them like locusts, and like the sand of the earth: for the multitude was without number.

²¹ And they went forth of Nineve three days' journey toward the plain of Bectileth, and pitched from Bectileth near the mountain which is at the left hand of the upper Cilicia. ²² Then he took all his army, his footmen, and horsemen, and chariots, and went from thence into the hill country; ²³ and destroyed Phud and Lud, and spoiled all the children of Rassas, and the children of Ismael, which were toward the wilderness at the south of the *land of the Chellians*.

²⁴ Then he went over Euphrates, and went through Mesopotamia, and destroyed all the high cities that were upon the river Arbana, till ye come to the sea.

²⁵ And he took the borders of Cilicia, and killed all that resisted him, and came to the borders of Japheth, which were toward the south, over against Arabia.

²⁶ He compassed also all the children of Madian, and burned up their tabernacles, and spoiled their sheepcotes.

²⁷ Then he went down into the plain of Damascus in the time of wheat harvest, and burnt up all their fields, and destroyed their flocks and herds, also he spoiled their cities, and utterly wasted their countries, and smote all their young men with the edge of the sword.

²⁸ Therefore the fear and dread of him fell upon all the inhabitants of the sea coasts, which were in Sidon and Tyrus, and them that dwelt in Sur and Ocina, and all that dwelt in Jemnaan; and they that dwelt in Azotus and Ascalon feared him greatly.

So they sent ambassadors unto him to treat of peace, saying, ² Behold, we the servants of Nabuchodonosor the great king lie before thee; use us as shall be good in thy sight. ³ Behold, our houses, and all our places, and all our fields of wheat, and flocks, and herds, and all the lodges of our tents, lie before thy face; use them as it pleaseth thee. ⁴ Behold, even our cities and the inhabitants thereof are thy servants; come and deal with them as seemeth good unto thee.

⁵ So the men came to Holofernes, and declared unto him after this manner. ⁶ Then came he down toward the sea coast, both he and his army, and set garrisons in the high cities, and took out of them chosen men for aid. ⁷ So they and all the country round about received him with garlands, with dances, and with timbrels. ⁸ Yet he did cast down their frontiers, and cut down their groves: for he had decreed to destroy all the gods of the land, that all nations should worship Nabuchodonosor only, and that all tongues and tribes should call upon him as a god.

⁹ Also he came over against Esdraelon near unto Judea, over against the great strait of Judea. ¹⁰ And he pitched between Geba and Scythopolis, and there he tarried a whole month, that he might gather together all the carriages of his army.

Now the children of Israel, that dwelt in Judea, heard all that Holofernes the chief captain of Nabuchodonosor king of the Assyrians had done to the nations, and after what manner he had spoiled all their temples, and brought them to nought. ² Therefore they were exceedingly afraid of him, and were troubled for Jerusalem, and for the temple of the Lord their God: ³ for they were newly returned from the captivity, and all the people of Judea were lately gathered together: and the vessels, and the altar, and the house, were sanctified after the profanation. ⁴ Therefore they sent into all the coasts of Samaria, and the villages, and to Bethoron, and Belmen, and Jericho, and to Choba, and Esora, and to the valley of Salem: ⁵ and possessed themselves beforehand of all the tops of the high mountains, and fortified the villages that were in them, and laid up victuals for the provision of war: for their fields were of late reaped.

⁶ Also Joacim the high priest, which was in those days in Jerusalem, wrote to them that dwelt in Bethulia, and Betomestham, which is over against Esdraelon toward the open country, near to Dothaim, ⁷ charging them to keep the passages of the hill country: for by them there was an entrance into Judea, and it was easy to stop them that would come up, because the passage was strait, for two men at the most. ⁸ And the children of Israel did as Joacim the high priest had commanded them, with the

Καὶ ἐπέπεσεν ὁ φόβος καὶ ὁ τρόμος αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τοὺς κατοικούντας τὴν παραλίαν, τοὺς ὄντας ἐν Σιδῶνι καὶ Τύρῳ, καὶ τοὺς κατοικούντας Σοῦρ, καὶ Ὀκινὰ, καὶ πάντας τοὺς κατοικούντας Ἰερμαάν· καὶ οἱ κατοικούντες ἐν Ἀζώτῳ καὶ Ἀσκάλωνι ἐφοβήθησαν αὐτὸν σφόδρα. 28

Καὶ ἀπέστειλαν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἀγγέλους λόγοις εἰρηνικοῖς, λέγοντες, ἰδοὺ ἡμεῖς οἱ παῖδες Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλέως μεγάλου παρακείμεθα ἐνώπιόν σου, χρῆσαι ἡμῖν καθὼς ἀρεστόν ἐστι τῷ προσώπῳ σου. Ἴδου αἱ ἐπαύλεις ἡμῶν, καὶ πᾶν πεδῖον πυρῶν, καὶ τὰ ποίμνια καὶ τὰ βουκόλια, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ μάνδραι τῶν σκηνῶν ἡμῶν παράκεινται πρὸ προσώπου σου· χρῆσαι καθ' ὃ ἂν ἀρέσκῃ σοι. Ἴδου καὶ αἱ πόλεις ἡμῶν, καὶ οἱ κατοικούντες ἐν αὐταῖς δοῦλοί σου εἰσὶν· ἐλθὼν ἀπάντησον αὐταῖς ὡς ἔστιν ἀγαθὸν ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς σου. 3

Καὶ παρεγένοντο οἱ ἄνδρες πρὸς Ὀλοφέρνην, καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν αὐτῷ κατὰ τὰ ῥήματα ταῦτα. Καὶ κατέβη ἐπὶ τὴν παραλίαν αὐτὸς καὶ ἡ δύναμις αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐφρούρησε τὰς πόλεις τὰς ὑψηλάς· καὶ ἔλαβεν ἐξ αὐτῶν εἰς συμμαχίαν ἄνδρας ἐπιλέκτους. Καὶ ἐδέξαντο αὐτὸν αὐτοὶ, καὶ πᾶσα ἡ περίχωρος αὐτῶν μετὰ στεφάνων καὶ χορῶν καὶ τυμπάνων. Καὶ κατέσκαψε πάντα τὰ ὄρια αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ ἄλση αὐτῶν ἐξέκοψε· καὶ ἦν δεδογμένον αὐτῷ ἐξολοθρεῦσαι πάντας τοὺς θεοὺς τῆς γῆς, ὅπως αὐτῷ μόνῳ τῷ Ναβουχοδονόσορ λατρεύσωσι πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ γλῶσσαι καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ φυλαὶ αὐτῶν ἐπικαλέσωνται αὐτὸν εἰς θεόν. 6

Καὶ ἦλθε κατὰ πρόσωπον Ἐσδρηλὼν πλησίον τῆς Δωταίας, ἥ ἐστὶν ἀπέναντι τοῦ πρίονος τοῦ μεγάλου τῆς Ἰουδαίας. Καὶ κατεστρατοπέδευσεν ἀναμέσον Γαιβαὶ καὶ Σκυθῶν πόλεως, καὶ ἦν ἐκεῖ μῆνα ἡμερῶν εἰς τὸ συλλέξει πᾶσαν τὴν ἀπαρτίαν τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ. 10

Καὶ ἤκουσαν οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ οἱ κατοικούντες ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησεν Ὀλοφέρνης τοῖς ἔθνεσιν, ὁ ἀρχιστράτηγος Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων, καὶ ὃν τρόπον ἐσκύλευσε πάντα τὰ ἱερὰ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτὰ εἰς ἀφανισμόν, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν σφόδρα σφόδρα ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ, καὶ περὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ τοῦ ναοῦ Κυρίου Θεοῦ αὐτῶν ἐταράχθησαν· ὅτι προσφάτως ἦσαν ἀναβεβηκότες ἐκ τῆς αἰχμαλωσίας, καὶ νεωστὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς συνελέλεκτο τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ τὰ σκεύη, καὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον, καὶ ὁ οἶκος, ἐκ τῆς βεβηλώσεως ἡγιασμένα ἦν, καὶ ἀπέστειλαν εἰς πᾶν ὄριον Σαμαρείας, καὶ Κωνὰς, καὶ Βαιθωρῶν, καὶ Βελμὲν, καὶ Ἱεριχώ, καὶ εἰς Χωβὰ, καὶ Αἰσωρὰ, καὶ τὸν αὐλῶνα Σαλήμ, καὶ προκατελάβοντο πάσας τὰς κορυφὰς τῶν ὀρέων τῶν ὑψηλῶν, καὶ ἐτειχίσαντο τὰς ἐν αὐτοῖς κώμας, καὶ παρέθεντο εἰς ἐπισιτισμὸν εἰς παρασκευὴν πολέμου, ὅτι προσφάτως ἦν τὰ πεδία αὐτῶν τεθερισμένα. 2

Καὶ ἔγραψεν Ἰωακὴμ ὁ ἱερεὺς ὁ μέγας, ὃς ἦν ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, τοῖς κατοικοῦσι Βετυλούα, καὶ Βετομεσθαῖμ, ἥ ἐστὶν ἀπέναντι Ἐσδρηλῶν, κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ πεδίου τοῦ πλησίον Δωθαῖμ, λέγων, διακατασχεῖν τὰς ἀναβάσεις τῆς ὀρεινῆς, ὅτι δι' αὐτῶν ἦν ἡ εἴσδοδος εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν· καὶ ἦν εὐχερῶς διακωλύσαι αὐτοὺς προσβαίνοντας, στενῆς τῆς προσβάσεως οὐσῆς, ἐπ' ἄνδρας τοὺς πάντας δύο. Καὶ ἐποίησαν οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ καθὰ συνέταξεν αὐτοῖς Ἰωακὴμ ὁ ἱερεὺς 8

ὁ μέγας, καὶ ἡ γερουσία παντὸς δήμου Ἰσραὴλ, οἱ ἐκάθηντο ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ.

- 9 Καὶ ἀνεβόησαν πᾶς ἀνὴρ Ἰσραὴλ πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν ἐν ἑκτενίᾳ μεγάλῃ, καὶ ἐταπεινούσαν τὰς ψυχὰς αὐτῶν ἐν ἑκτενίᾳ μεγάλῃ,
10 αὐτοὶ καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ νήπια αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ κτήνη αὐτῶν· καὶ πᾶς πάροικος ἢ μισθωτὸς, καὶ ἀργυρώνητος αὐτῶν, ἐπέθεντο σάκκους ἐπὶ τὰς ὀσφύας αὐτῶν.
- 11 Καὶ πᾶς ἀνὴρ Ἰσραὴλ καὶ γυνή, τὰ παῖδιά, καὶ οἱ κατοικοῦντες ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἔπεσον κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ ναοῦ, καὶ ἐσποδώσαντο τὰς κεφαλὰς αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐξέτειναν τοὺς σάκκους αὐτῶν κατὰ πρόσωπον Κυρίου· καὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον σάκκῳ περιέβαλον, καὶ ἐβόησαν πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν Ἰσραὴλ ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἑκτενῶς, τοῦ μὴ δοῦναι εἰς διαρπαγὴν τὰ νήπια αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰς γυναῖκας εἰς προνομὴν, καὶ τὰς πόλεις τῆς κληρονομίας αὐτῶν εἰς ἀφανισμόν, καὶ τὰ ἅγια εἰς βεβήλωσιν καὶ ὀνειδισμόν, ἐπίχαρμα τοῖς ἔθνεσι.
- 13 Καὶ εἰσήκουσε Κύριος τῆς φωνῆς αὐτῶν, καὶ εἰσεῖδε τὴν θλίψιν αὐτῶν· καὶ ἦν ὁ λαὸς νηστεύων ἡμέρας πλείους ἐν πάσῃ τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, κατὰ πρόσωπον τῶν ἁγίων Κυρίου παντοκράτορος.
- 14 Καὶ Ἰωακὶμ ὁ ἱερεὺς ὁ μέγας, καὶ πάντες οἱ παρεστηκότες ἐνώπιον Κυρίου, ἱερεῖς καὶ οἱ λειτουργοῦντες Κυρίῳ, σάκκους περιέζωσμένοι τὰς ὀσφύας αὐτῶν, προσέφερον τὴν ὀλοκαύτωσιν τοῦ ἐνδελεχισμοῦ, καὶ τὰς εὐχὰς, καὶ τὰ ἑκουσία δόματα τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ ἦν σποδὸς ἐπὶ τὰς κιθάρεις αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐβόων πρὸς Κύριον ἐκ πάσης δυνάμεως εἰς ἀγαθὸν ἐπισκέψασθαι πάντα οἶκον Ἰσραὴλ.
- 5 Καὶ ἀνηγγέλλη Ὀλοφέρνῃ ἀρχιστρατήγῳ δυνάμεως Ἀσσοῦρ, διότι οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ παρεσκευάσαντο εἰς πόλεμον, καὶ τὰς διόδους τῆς ὀρεινῆς συνέκλεισαν, καὶ ἐτείχισαν πᾶσαν κορυφὴν ὄρους ὑψηλοῦ, καὶ ἔθηκαν ἐν τοῖς πεδίοις σκάνδαλα. Καὶ ὤργισθη θυμῷ σφόδρα, καὶ ἐκάλεσε πάντας τοὺς ἄρχοντας Μωὰβ, καὶ τοὺς στρατηγούς Ἀμμὼν, καὶ πάντας σατράπας τῆς παραλίας, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, ἀναγγείλατε δὴ μοι, υἱοὶ Χαναάν, τίς ὁ λαὸς οὗτος ὁ καθήμενος ἐν τῇ ὀρεινῇ, καὶ τίνες ἄς κατοικοῦσι πόλεις; καὶ τὸ πλῆθος τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐν τίνι τὸ κράτος αὐτῶν, καὶ ἡ ἰσχὺς αὐτῶν, καὶ τίς ἀνέστηκεν ἐπ' αὐτῶν βασιλεὺς ἡγούμενος στρατηγίας αὐτῶν; Καὶ διὰ τί κατενωτίσαντο τοῦ μὴ ἔλθειν εἰς ἀπάντησίν μοι παρὰ πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας ἐν δυσμαῖς;
- 5 Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὸν Ἀχιὼρ ὁ ἡγούμενος πάντων υἱῶν Ἀμμὼν, ἀκουσάτω δὴ ὁ κύριός μου λόγον ἐκ στόματος τοῦ δούλου σου, καὶ ἀναγγελῶ σοι τὴν ἀλήθειαν περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ, ὃς κατοικεῖ τὴν ὀρεινὴν ταύτην, πλησίον σοι οἰκοῦντος, καὶ οὐκ ἐξελεύσεται ψεῦδος ἐκ τοῦ στόματος τοῦ δούλου σου. Ὁ λαὸς οὗτός εἰσιν ἄπογόνοι Χαλδαίων, καὶ παρῴκησαν τὸ πρότερον ἐν τῇ Μεσοποταμίᾳ, ὅτι οὐκ ἐβουλήθησαν ἀκολουθῆσαι τοῖς θεοῖς τῶν πατέρων αὐτῶν, οἱ ἐγένοντο ἐν γῇ Χαλδαίων· καὶ ἐξέβησαν ἐξ ὁδοῦ τῶν γονέων αὐτῶν, καὶ προσεκύνησαν τῷ Θεῷ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, Θεῷ ᾧ ἐπέγνωσαν· καὶ ἐξέβαλον αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ προσώπου τῶν θεῶν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς Μεσοποταμίαν, καὶ παρῴκησαν ἐκεῖ ἡμέρας πολλὰς.

ancients of all the people of Israel, which dwelt at Jerusalem.

⁹ Then every man of Israel cried to God with great fervency, and with great vehemency did they humble their souls; ¹⁰ both they, and their wives, and their children, and their cattle, and every stranger and hireling, and their servants bought with money, put sackcloth upon their loins.

¹¹ Thus every man and woman, and the little children, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, fell before the temple, and cast ashes upon their heads, and spread out their sackcloth before the face of the Lord: also they put sackcloth about the altar, ¹² and cried to the God of Israel all with one consent earnestly, that he would not give their children for a prey, and their wives for a spoil, and the cities of their inheritance to destruction, and the sanctuary to profanation and reproach, and for the nations to rejoice at.

¹³ So God heard their prayers, and looked upon their afflictions: for the people fasted many days in all Judea and Jerusalem before the sanctuary of the Lord Almighty.

¹⁴ And Joacim the high priest, and all the priests that stood before the Lord, and they which ministered unto the Lord, had their loins girt with sackcloth, and offered the daily burnt offerings, with the vows and free gifts of the people, ¹⁵ and had ashes on their mitres, and cried unto the Lord with all their power, that he would look upon all the house of Israel graciously.

Then was it declared to Holofernes, the chief captain of the army of Assur, that the children of Israel had prepared for war, and had shut up the passages of the hill country, and had fortified all the tops of the high hills, and had laid impediments in the campaign countries: ² wherewith he was very angry, and called all the princes of Moab, and the captains of Ammon, and all the governors of the sea coast, ³ and he said unto them, Tell me now, ye sons of Chanaan, who this people is, that dwelleth in the hill country, and what are the cities that they inhabit, and what is the multitude of their army, and wherein is their power and strength, and what king is set over them, or captain of their army; ⁴ and why have they determined not to come and meet me, more than all the inhabitants of the west?

⁵ Then said Achior, the captain of all the sons of Ammon, Let my lord now hear a word from the mouth of thy servant, and I will declare unto thee the truth concerning this people, which dwelleth near thee, and inhabiteth the hill countries: and there shall no lie come out of the mouth of thy servant. ⁶ This people are descended of the Chaldeans: ⁷ and they sojourned heretofore in Mesopotamia, because they would not follow the gods of their fathers, which were in the land of Chaldea. ⁸ For they left the way of their ancestors, and worshipped the God of heaven, the God whom they knew: so they cast them out from the face of their gods, and they fled into Mesopotamia, and sojourned there many days.

⁹Then their God commanded them to depart from the place where they sojourned, and to go into the land of Chanaan: where they dwelt, and were increased with gold and silver, and with very much cattle. ¹⁰But when a famine covered all the land of Chanaan, they went down into Egypt, and sojourned there, while they were nourished, and became there a great multitude, so that one could not number their nation. ¹¹Therefore the king of Egypt rose up against them, and dealt subtilly with them, and brought them low with labouring in brick, and made them slaves.

¹²Then they cried unto their God, and he smote all the land of Egypt with incurable plagues: so the Egyptians cast them out of their sight. ¹³And God dried the Red sea before them, ¹⁴and brought them to mount Sina, and Cades-Barne, and cast forth all that dwelt in the wilderness.

¹⁵So they dwelt in the land of the Amorites, and they destroyed by their strength all them of Esebon, and passing over Jordan they possessed all the hill country. ¹⁶And they cast forth before them the Chanaanite, the Pherezite, the Jebusite, and the Sychemite, and all the Gergesites, and they dwelt in that country many days.

¹⁷And whilst they sinned not before their God, they prospered, because the God that hateth iniquity was with them. ¹⁸But when they departed from the way which he appointed them, they were destroyed in many battles very sore, and were led captives into a land that was not their's, and the temple of their God was cast to the ground, and their cities were taken by the enemies.

¹⁹But now are they returned to their God, and are come up from the places where they were scattered, and have possessed Jerusalem, where their sanctuary is, and are seated in the hill country; for it was desolate. ²⁰Now therefore, my lord and governor, if there be any error in this people, and they sin against their God, let us consider that this shall be their ruin, and let us go up, and we shall overcome them. ²¹But if there be no iniquity in their nation, let my lord now pass by, lest their Lord defend them, and their God be for them, and we become a reproach before all the world.

²²And when Achior had finished these sayings, all the people standing round about the tent murmured, and the chief men of Holofernes, and all that dwelt by the sea side, and in Moab, spake that he should kill him. ²³For, *say they*, we will not be afraid of the face of the children of Israel: for, lo, it is a people that have no strength nor power for a strong battle.

²⁴Now therefore, lord Holofernes, we will go up, and they shall be a prey to be devoured of all thine army.

And when the tumult of men that were about the council was ceased, Holofernes the chief captain of the army of Assur said unto Achior and all the Moabites before all the company of other nations, ²And who art thou, Achior, and the hirelings of Ephraim, that thou hast prophesied among us as to day, and hast said, that we should not make war with the people of Israel, because their God will defend them? and who is God

Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ Θεὸς αὐτῶν ἐξελθεῖν ἐκ τῆς παροικίας αὐτῶν, καὶ 9 πορευθῆναι εἰς γῆν Χαναάν· καὶ κατέβησαν ἐκεῖ, καὶ ἐπληθύνθησαν χρυσίῳ καὶ ἀργυρίῳ καὶ ἐν κτήνεσι πολλοῖς σφόδρα. Καὶ κατέβησαν εἰς Αἴγυπτον, ἐκάλυψε γὰρ τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς 10 γῆς Χαναάν λιμὸς, καὶ παρώκησαν ἐκεῖ μέχρις οὗ διετράφησαν· καὶ ἐγένοντο ἐκεῖ εἰς πλῆθος πολὺν, καὶ οὐκ ἦν ἀριθμὸς τοῦ γένους αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐπανέστη αὐτοῖς ὁ βασιλεὺς Αἰγύπτου, καὶ 11 κατεσοφίσαντο αὐτοὺς ἐν πόνῳ καὶ ἐν πλίνθῳ, καὶ ἐταπείνωσαν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἔθεντο αὐτοὺς εἰς δούλους.

Καὶ ἀνεβύησαν πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπάταξε πᾶσαν τὴν 12 γῆν Αἰγύπτου πληγαῖς, ἐν αἷς οὐκ ἦν ἴσσις· καὶ ἐξέβαλον αὐτοὺς οἱ Αἰγύπτιοι ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν. Καὶ κατεξήρηνεν 13 ὁ Θεὸς τὴν ἐρυθρὰν θάλασσαν ἔμπροσθεν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἤγαγεν 14 αὐτοὺς εἰς ὁδὸν τοῦ Σινᾶ, καὶ Κάδης Βαρνῆ, καὶ ἐξέβαλον πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ.

Καὶ ὤκησαν ἐν γῇ Ἀμορραίων, καὶ πάντας τοὺς Ἑσεβωνίτας 15 ἐξωλόθρευσαν ἐν τῇ ἰσχυρί αὐτῶν· καὶ διαβάντες τὸν Ἰορδάνην ἐκληρονόμησαν πᾶσαν τὴν ὄρεινῃν. Καὶ ἐξέβαλον ἐκ προσ- 16 ὤπου αὐτῶν τὸν Χανααῖον, καὶ τὸν Φερεζαῖον, καὶ τὸν Ἰεβουσαῖον, καὶ τὸν Συχεμ, καὶ πάντας τοὺς Γεργεσαίους, καὶ κατέωκησαν ἐν αὐτῇ ἡμέρας πολλάς.

Καὶ ἕως οὐχ ἤμαρτον ἐνώπιον τοῦ Θεοῦ αὐτῶν, ἦν τὰ ἀγαθὰ 17 μετ' αὐτῶν, ὅτι Θεὸς μισῶν ἀδικίαν μετ' αὐτῶν ἐστίν. Ὅτε δὲ 18 ἀπέστησαν ἀπὸ τῆς ὁδοῦ ἧς διέθετο αὐτοῖς, ἐξωλοθρεύθησαν ἐν πολλοῖς πολέμοις ἐπὶ πολὺ σφόδρα, καὶ ἡχμαλωτεύθησαν εἰς γῆν οὐκ ἰδίαν, καὶ ὁ ναὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ αὐτῶν ἐγενήθη εἰς ἔδαφος, καὶ αἱ πόλεις αὐτῶν ἐκρατήθησαν ὑπὸ τῶν ὑπεναντίων.

Καὶ νῦν ἐπιστρέψαντες ἐπὶ τὸν Θεὸν αὐτῶν, ἀνέβησαν ἐκ τῆς 19 διασπορᾶς οὗ διεσπάρησαν ἐκεῖ, καὶ κατέσχον τὴν Ἱερουσαλήμ, οὗ τὸ ἀγίασμα αὐτῶν, καὶ κατωκίσθησαν ἐν τῇ ὄρεινῃ, ὅτι ἦν ἔρημος, καὶ νῦν, δέσποτα κύριε, εἰ μὲν ἐστὶν ἀγνόημα ἐν τῷ 20 λαῷ τούτῳ, καὶ ἁμαρτάνουσιν εἰς τὸν Θεὸν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπισκεψόμεθα ὃ, τι ἐστὶν ἐν αὐτοῖς σκάνδαλον τούτου, καὶ ἀναβησόμεθα, καὶ ἐκπολεμήσομεν αὐτούς. Εἰ δὲ οὐκ ἐστὶν ἀνομία ἐν τῷ 21 ἔθνει αὐτῶν, παρελθέτω δὴ ὁ κύριός μου, μήποτε ὑπερασπίσῃ ὁ Κύριος αὐτῶν καὶ ὁ Θεὸς αὐτῶν ὑπὲρ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐσόμεθα εἰς ὀνειδισμόν ἐναντίον πάσης τῆς γῆς.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἐπαύσατο Ἀχιὼρ λαλῶν τοὺς λόγους τούτους, 22 καὶ ἐγόγγυσε πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ὁ κυκλῶν τὴν σκηνὴν καὶ περιεστῶς· καὶ εἶπαν οἱ μεγιστᾶνες Ὀλοφέρνῳ, καὶ πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες τὴν παραλίαν καὶ τὴν Μωάβ, συγκόψαι αὐτὸν, οὐ γὰρ φοβηθή- 23 σόμεθα ἀπὸ υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ· ἰδοὺ γὰρ λαὸς ἐν ᾧ οὐκ ἐστὶ δύναμις, οὐδὲ κράτος εἰς παράταξιν ἰσχυράν.

Διὸ δὴ ἀναβησόμεθα, καὶ ἔσονται εἰς κατάβρωμα πάσης τῆς 24 στρατιᾶς σου, δέσποτα Ὀλοφέρνῃ.

Καὶ ὡς κατέπανσεν ὁ θόρυβος τῶν ἀνδρῶν τῶν κύκλῳ τῆς 6 συνεδρείας, καὶ εἶπεν Ὀλοφέρνῃς ὁ ἀρχιστράτηγος δυνάμειος Ἀσσοῦρ πρὸς Ἀχιὼρ ἐναντίον παντὸς τοῦ δήμου ἁλλοφύλων, καὶ πρὸς πάντας υἱοὺς Μωάβ, καὶ τίς εἰ σὺ, Ἀχιὼρ, καὶ οἱ 2 μισθωτοὶ τοῦ Ἐφραὶμ, ὅτι προεφήτευσας ἐν ἡμῖν καθὼς σήμερον, καὶ εἶπας τὸ γένος Ἰσραὴλ μὴ πολεμῆσαι, ὅτι ὁ Θεὸς αὐτῶν ὑπερασπιεῖ αὐτῶν; καὶ τίς ὁ Θεὸς εἰ μὴ Ναβουχοδο-

- 3 νόσσοι; Οὗτος ἀποστελεῖ τὸ κράτος αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐξολοθρεύσει αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ προσώπου τῆς γῆς, καὶ οὐ ῥύσεται αὐτοὺς ὁ Θεὸς αὐτῶν· ἀλλ' ἡμεῖς οἱ δοῦλοι αὐτοῦ πατάξομεν αὐτοὺς ὡς ἄνθρωπον ἓνα, καὶ οὐχ ὑποστήσονται τὸ κράτος τῶν ἵππων ἡμῶν.
- 4 Κατακαύσομεν γὰρ αὐτοὺς ἐν αὐτοῖς, καὶ τὰ ὄρη αὐτῶν μεθυσθήσεται ἐν τῷ αἵματι αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ πεδία αὐτῶν πληρωθήσεται νεκρῶν αὐτῶν· καὶ οὐκ ἀντιστήσεται τὸ ἔχνος τῶν ποδῶν αὐτῶν κατὰ πρόσωπον ἡμῶν, ἀλλὰ ἀπωλεία ἀπολούνται, λάλει ὁ βασιλεὺς Ναβουχοδονόσορ ὁ κύριος πάσης τῆς γῆς· εἶπε γὰρ, οὐ ματαιωθήσεται τὰ ῥήματα τῶν λόγων αὐτοῦ.
- 5 Σὺ δὲ Ἀχιὼρ μισθωτὴ τοῦ Ἀμμὼν, ὃς ἐλάλησας τοὺς λόγους τούτους ἐν ἡμέρᾳ ἀδικίας σου, οὐκ ὄψει ἔτι τὸ πρόσωπόν μου ἀπὸ τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης, ἕως οὗ ἐκδικήσω τὸ γένος τῶν ἐκ Αἰγύπτου.
- 6 Καὶ τότε διελεύσεται ὁ σιδηρὸς τῆς στρατιᾶς μου, καὶ ὁ λαὸς τῶν θεραπόντων μου τὰς πλευράς σου, καὶ πεσῇ ἐν τοῖς τραυματίαις αὐτῶν, ὅταν ἐπιστρέψω. Καὶ ἀποκαταστήσουσί σε οἱ δοῦλοί μου εἰς τὴν ὀρεινὴν, καὶ θήσουσί σε ἐν μιᾷ τῶν πόλεων τῶν ἀναβάσεων, καὶ οὐκ ἀπολῇ ἕως οὗ ἐξολοθρευθῇς μετ' αὐτῶν. Καὶ εἴπερ ἐλπίζεις τῇ καρδίᾳ σου ὅτι οὐ ληφθήσονται, μὴ συμπεσέτω σου τὸ πρόσωπον· ἐλάλησα, καὶ οὐδὲν διαπεσεῖται τῶν ῥημάτων μου.
- 10 Καὶ προσέταξεν Ὁλοφέρνης τοῖς δούλοις αὐτοῦ, οἳ ἦσαν παρεστηκότες ἐν τῇ σκηνῇ αὐτοῦ, συλλαβεῖν τὸν Ἀχιὼρ, καὶ ἀποκαταστήσαι αὐτὸν εἰς Βετυλούα, καὶ παράδοῦναι εἰς χεῖρας υἱὸν Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ συνέλαβον αὐτὸν οἱ δοῦλοι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἤγαγον αὐτὸν ἔξω τῆς παρεμβολῆς εἰς τὸ πεδῖον, καὶ ἀπῆραν ἐκ μέσου τῆς πεδινῆς εἰς τὴν ὀρεινὴν, καὶ παρεγένοντο ἐπὶ τὰς πηγὰς αἱ ἦσαν ὑποκάτω Βετυλούα. Καὶ ὡς εἶδαν αὐτοὺς οἱ ἄνδρες τῆς πόλεως ἐπὶ τὴν κορυφὴν τοῦ ὄρους, ἀνέλαβον τὰ ὅπλα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἀπῆλθον ἔξω τῆς πόλεως ἐπὶ τὴν κορυφὴν τοῦ ὄρους· καὶ πῶς ἀνὴρ σφενδονητῆς διεκράτησεν τὴν ἀνάβασιν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔβαλον ἐν λίθοις ἐπ' αὐτούς. Καὶ ὑποδύσαντες ὑποκάτω τοῦ ὄρους, ἔδησαν τὸν Ἀχιὼρ, καὶ ἀφήκαν ἐρρίμμενον ὑπὸ τὴν ρίζαν τοῦ ὄρους, καὶ ἀπώχοντο πρὸς τὸν κύριον αὐτῶν.
- 14 Καταβάντες δὲ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἐκ τῆς πόλεως αὐτῶν ἐπέστησαν αὐτῷ, καὶ λύσαντες αὐτὸν ἀπήγαγον εἰς τὴν Βετυλούα, καὶ κατέστησαν αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀρχοντας τῆς πόλεως αὐτῶν, οἳ ἦσαν ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, Ὁζίας ὁ τοῦ Μιχὰ ἐκ τῆς φυλῆς Συμεὼν, καὶ Ἀβρίς ὁ τοῦ Γοθονιήλ, καὶ Χαρμὶς υἱὸς Μελχιήλ.
- 16 Καὶ συνεκάλεσαν πάντας τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς πόλεως· καὶ συνέδραμον πᾶς νεανίσκος αὐτῶν καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες εἰς τὴν ἐκκλησίαν· καὶ ἔστησαν τὸν Ἀχιὼρ ἐν μέσῳ παντὸς τοῦ λαοῦ αὐτῶν· καὶ ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτὸν Ὁζίας τὸ συμβεβηκός. Καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτοῖς τὰ ῥήματα τῆς συνεδρίας Ὁλοφέρνου, καὶ πάντα τὰ ῥήματα ὅσα ἐλάλησεν ἐν μέσῳ τῶν ἀρχόντων υἱὸν Ἀσσοῦρ, καὶ ὅσα ἐμεγαλορῆμόνησεν Ὁλοφέρνης εἰς τὸν οἶκον Ἰσραὴλ.
- 18 Καὶ πεσόντες ὁ λαὸς προσεκύνησαν τῷ Θεῷ, καὶ ἐβόησαν λέγοντες, κύριε ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, κάτιδε ἐπὶ τὰς ὑπερηφανείας αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐλέησον τὴν ταπείνωσιν τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐπίβλεψον ἐπὶ τὸ πρόσωπον τῶν ἡγιασμένων σοι ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ταύτῃ.

but Nabuchodonosor? ³ He will send his power, and will destroy them from the face of the earth, and their God shall not deliver them: but we his servants will destroy them as one man; for they are not able to sustain the power of our horses. ⁴ For with them we will tread them under foot, and their mountains shall be drunken with their blood, and their fields shall be filled with their dead bodies, and their footsteps shall not be able to stand before us, for they shall utterly perish, saith king Nabuchodonosor, lord of all the earth: for he said, None of my words shall be in vain.

⁵ And thou, Achior, an hireling of Ammon, which hast spoken these words in the day of thine iniquity, shalt see my face no more from this day, until I take vengeance of this nation that came out of Egypt. ⁶ And then shall the sword of mine army, and the multitude of them that serve me, pass through thy sides, and thou shalt fall among their slain, when I return. ⁷ Now therefore my servants shall bring thee back into the hill country, and shall set thee in one of the cities of the passages: ⁸ and thou shalt not perish, till thou be destroyed with them. ⁹ And if thou persuade thyself in thy mind that they shall not be taken, let not thy countenance fall: I have spoken it, and none of my words shall be in vain.

¹⁰ Then Holofernes commanded his servants, that waited in his tent, to take Achior, and bring him to Bethulia, and deliver him into the hands of the children of Israel. ¹¹ So his servants took him, and brought him out of the camp into the plain, and they went from the midst of the plain into the hill country, and came unto the fountains that were under Bethulia. ¹² And when the men of the city saw them, they took up their weapons, and went out of the city to the top of the hill: and every man that used a sling kept them from coming up by casting of stones against them. ¹³ Nevertheless having gotten privily under the hill, they bound Achior, and cast him down, and left him at the foot of the hill, and returned to their lord.

¹⁴ But the Israelites descended from their city, and came unto him, and loosed him, and brought him into Bethulia, and presented him to the governors of the city: ¹⁵ which were in those days Ozias the son of Micha, of the tribe of Simeon, and Chabris the son of Gothoniel, and Charmis the son of Melchiel.

¹⁶ And they called together all the ancients of the city, and all their youth ran together, and their women, to the assembly, and they set Achior in the midst of all their people. Then Ozias asked him of that which was done. ¹⁷ And he answered and declared unto them the words of the council of Holofernes, and all the words that he had spoken in the midst of the princes of Assur, and whatsoever Holofernes had spoken proudly against the house of Israel.

¹⁸ Then the people fell down and worshipped God, and cried unto God, saying, ¹⁹ O Lord God of heaven, behold their pride, and pity the low estate of our nation, and look upon the face of those that are sanctified unto thee this day.

²⁰ And they comforted Achior, and praised him greatly. ²¹ And Ozias took him out of the assembly unto his house, and made a feast to the elders; and they called on the God of Israel all that night for help.

The next day Holofernes commanded all his army, and all his people which were come to take his part, that they should remove their camp against Bethulia, to take aforehand the ascents of the hill country, and to make war against the children of Israel. ² Then their strong men removed their camps in that day, and the army of the men of war was an hundred and seventy thousand footmen, and twelve thousand horsemen, beside the baggage, and other men that were afoot among them, a very great multitude. ³ And they camped in the valley near unto Bethulia, by the fountain, and they spread themselves in breadth over Dothaim even to Belthem, and in length from Bethulia unto Cyamon, which is over against Esdraelom.

⁴ Now the children of Israel, when they saw the multitude of them, were greatly troubled, and said every one to his neighbour, Now will these men lick up the face of the earth; for neither the high mountains, nor the valleys, nor the hills, are able to bear their weight. ⁵ Then every man took up his weapons of war, and when they had kindled fires upon their towers, they remained and watched all that night. ⁶ But in the second day Holofernes brought forth all his horsemen in the sight of the children of Israel which were in Bethulia, ⁷ and viewed the passages up to the city, and came to the fountains of their waters, and took them, and set garrisons of men of war over them, and he himself removed toward his people.

⁸ Then came unto him all the chief of the children of Esau, and all the governors of the people of Moab, and the captains of the sea coast, and said, ⁹ Let our lord now hear a word, that there be not an overthrow in thine army. ¹⁰ For this people of the children of Israel do not trust in their spears, but in the height of the mountains wherein they dwell, because it is not easy to come up to the tops of their mountains.

¹¹ Now therefore, my lord, fight not against them in battle array, and there shall not so much as one man of thy people perish. ¹² Remain in thy camp, and keep all the men of thine army, and let thy servants get into their hands the fountain of water, which issueth forth of the foot of the mountain: ¹³ for all the inhabitants of Bethulia have their water thence; so shall thirst kill them, and they shall give up their city, and we and our people shall go up to the tops of the mountains that are near, and will camp upon them, to watch that none go out of the city. ¹⁴ So they and their wives and their children shall be consumed with famine, and before the sword come against them, they shall be overthrown in the streets where they dwell. ¹⁵ Thus shalt thou render them an evil reward; because they rebelled, and met not thy person peaceably.

Καὶ παρεκάλεσαν τὸν Ἀχιὼρ, καὶ ἐπήνεσαν αὐτὸν σφόδρα. ²⁰ Καὶ παρέλαβεν αὐτὸν Ὁζίας ἐκ τῆς ἐκκλησίας εἰς οἶκον αὐτοῦ, ²¹ καὶ ἐποίησε πότον τοῖς πρεσβυτέροις· καὶ ἐπεκαλέσαντο τὸν Θεὸν Ἰσραὴλ εἰς βοήθειαν ὅλην τὴν νύκτα ἐκείνην.

Τῇ δ' ἐπαύριον παρήγγειλεν Ὁλοφέρνης πᾶσιν τῇ στρατιᾷ ⁷ αὐτοῦ, καὶ παντὶ τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ, οἱ παρεγένοντο ἐπὶ τὴν συμαχίαν αὐτοῦ, ἀναξυγνύνειν ἐπὶ Βετυλούα, καὶ τὰς ἀναβάσεις τῆς ὀρεινῆς προκαταλαμβάνεσθαι, καὶ ποιεῖν πόλεμον πρὸς τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ ἀνέβηεν ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ πᾶς ² ἀνὴρ δυνατὸς αὐτῶν· καὶ ἡ δύναμις αὐτῶν ἀνδρῶν πολεμιστῶν, χιλιάδες ἀνδρῶν πεζῶν ἑκατὸν ἐβδομήκοντα, καὶ ἱππέων χιλιάδες δεκαδύο, χωρὶς τῆς ἀποσκευῆς, καὶ τῶν ἀνδρῶν οἱ ἦσαν πεζοὶ ἐν αὐτοῖς, πλήθος πολὺ σφόδρα. Καὶ παρεν- ³ έβαλον ἐν τῷ αὐλῶνι πλησίον Βετυλούα ἐπὶ τῆς πηγῆς, καὶ παρέτειναν εἰς εὖρος ἐπὶ Δωθαῖμ καὶ ἕως Βελθέμ, καὶ εἰς μῆκος ἀπὸ Βετυλούα ἕως Κναμώνος, ἣ ἐστὶν ἀπέναντι Ἑσδρηλῶμ.

Οἱ δὲ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ, ὡς εἶδον αὐτῶν τὸ πλῆθος, ἐταράχθησαν ⁴ σφόδρα· καὶ εἶπεν ἕκαστος πρὸς τὸν πλησίον αὐτοῦ, νῦν ἐκλείουσιν οὗτοι τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς γῆς πάσης, καὶ οὔτε τὰ ὄρη τὰ ὑψηλὰ, οὔτε αἱ φάραγγες, οὔτε οἱ βουνοὶ ὑποστήσονται τὸ βάρος αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἀναλαβόντες ἕκαστος τὰ σκεύη τὰ ⁵ πολεμικὰ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἀνακαύσαντες πυρὰς ἐπὶ τοὺς πύργους αὐτῶν, ἔμενον φυλάσσοντες ὅλην τὴν νύκτα ἐκείνην. Τῇ δὲ ⁶ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ δευτέρᾳ ἐξήγαγεν Ὁλοφέρνης πᾶσαν τὴν ἵππον αὐτοῦ κατὰ πρόσωπον τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ οἱ ἦσαν ἐν Βετυλούα, καὶ ⁷ ἐπεσκέφατο τὰς ἀναβάσεις τῆς πόλεως αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰς πηγὰς τῶν ὑδάτων αὐτῶν ἐφώδευσε, καὶ προκατελάβετο αὐτὰς, καὶ ἐπέστησεν αὐταῖς παρεμβολὰς ἀνδρῶν πολεμιστῶν, καὶ αὐτὸς ἀνέβηεν εἰς τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ προσελθόντες αὐτῷ πάντες οἱ ἄρχοντες τῶν υἱῶν Ἡσαῦ, ⁸ καὶ πάντες οἱ ἡγούμενοι τοῦ λαοῦ Μωάβ, καὶ οἱ στρατηγοὶ τῆς παραλίας, εἶπαν, ἀκουσάτω δὴ λόγον ὁ δεσπότης ἡμῶν, ἵνα ⁹ μὴ γένηται θραῦσμα ἐν τῇ δυνάμει σου. Ὁ γὰρ λαὸς οὗτος ¹⁰ τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ οὐ πέποιθαν ἐπὶ τοῖς δόρασιν αὐτῶν, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ τοῖς ὕψει τῶν ὀρέων αὐτῶν, ἐν οἷς αὐτοὶ ἐνοικοῦσιν ἐν αὐτοῖς· οὐ γάρ ἐστιν εὐχερὲς προσβῆναι ταῖς κορυφαῖς τῶν ὀρέων αὐτῶν.

Καὶ νῦν, δέσποτα, μὴ πολέμει πρὸς αὐτοὺς, καθὼς γίνεται ¹¹ πόλεμος παρατάξεως, καὶ οὐ πεσεῖται ἐκ τοῦ λαοῦ σου ἀνὴρ εἰς. Ἀνάμεινον ἐπὶ τῆς παρεμβολῆς σου, διαφυλάσσων πάντα ¹² ἄνδρα ἐκ τῆς δυνάμεώς σου, καὶ ἐπικρατησάτωσαν οἱ παῖδες σου τῆς πηγῆς τοῦ ὕδατος, ἣ ἐκπορεύεται ἐκ τῆς ρίζης τοῦ ὄρους, διότι ἐκεῖθεν ὑδρεύονται πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες Βετυ- ¹³ λούα, καὶ ἀνελεῖ αὐτοὺς ἡ δίψα, καὶ ἐκδώσουσι τὴν πόλιν ἑαυτῶν· καὶ ἡμεῖς καὶ ὁ λαὸς ἡμῶν ἀναβησόμεθα ἐπὶ τὰς πλησίον κορυφὰς τῶν ὀρέων, καὶ παρεμβαλοῦμεν ἐπ' αὐταῖς εἰς προφυλακὴν, τοῦ μὴ ἐξελεῖν ἐκ τῆς πόλεως ἄνδρα ἓνα. Καὶ ¹⁴ τὰκῆσονται ἐν τῷ λιμῷ αὐτοὶ, καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν· καὶ πρὶν ἔλθειν τὴν ῥομφαίαν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, καταστρωθήσονται ἐν ταῖς πλατείαις τῆς οἰκίσεως αὐτῶν, καὶ ¹⁵ ἀνταποδώσεις αὐτοῖς ἀνταπόδομα πονηρὸν, ἀνθ' ὧν ἐστασίασαν, καὶ οὐκ ἀπήντησαν τῷ προσώπῳ σου ἐν εἰρήνῃ.

- 16 Καὶ ἤρεσαν οἱ λόγοι αὐτῶν ἐνώπιον Ὀλοφέρνου, καὶ ἐνώπιον πάντων τῶν θεραπόντων αὐτοῦ, καὶ συνέταξαν ποιεῖν καθὼς
17 ἐλάλησαν. Καὶ ἀπῆρε παρεμβολὴ υἱῶν Ἀμμὼν, καὶ μετ' αὐτῶν χιλιάδες πέντε υἱῶν Ἀσσοῦρ· καὶ παρενέβαλον ἐν τῷ αὐλῶνι, καὶ προκατελάβοντο τὰ ὕδατα, καὶ τὰς πηγὰς τῶν ὑδάτων τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ.
- 18 Καὶ ἀνέβησαν υἱοὶ Ἡσαῦ, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ Ἀμμὼν, καὶ παρενέβαλον ἐν τῇ ὄρεινῃ ἀπέναντι Δωθαῖμ, καὶ ἀπέστειλαν ἐξ αὐτῶν πρὸς Νότον καὶ ἀπηλιώτην ἀπέναντι Ἐκρεβήλ, ἣ ἐστὶ πλησίον Χοῦς, ἣ ἐστὶν ἐπὶ τοῦ χειμάρρου Μοχμούρ· καὶ ἡ λοιπὴ στρατιὰ τῶν Ἀσσυρίων παρενέβαλον ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ, καὶ ἐκάλυψαν πᾶν τὸ πρόσωπον τῆς γῆς· καὶ αἱ σκηναὶ καὶ αἱ ἀπαρτίαι αὐτῶν κατεστρατοπέδευσαν ἐν ὄχλῳ πολλῷ, καὶ ἦσαν εἰς πλῆθος πολὺ σφόδρα.
- 19 Καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἀνεβόησαν πρὸς Κύριον Θεὸν αὐτῶν, ὅτι ὠλιγοψύχησε τὸ πνεῦμα αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἐκύκλωσαν πάντες οἱ
20 ἐχθροὶ αὐτῶν, καὶ οὐκ ἦν διαφυγεῖν ἐκ μέσου αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἔμεινε κύκλῳ αὐτῶν πᾶσα παρεμβολὴ Ἀσσοῦρ, οἱ πεζοὶ καὶ τὰ ἄρματα καὶ οἱ ἵπποι αὐτῶν, ἡμέρας τριακοντατέσσαρας· καὶ ἐξέλιπε πάντας τοὺς κατοικοῦντας Βετυλούα πάντα τὰ ἀγγεῖα
21 αὐτῶν τῶν ὑδάτων. Καὶ οἱ λάκκοι ἐξεκενοῦντο, καὶ οὐκ εἶχον πιεῖν εἰς πλησμονὴν ὕδωρ ἡμέραν μίαν, ὅτι ἐν μέτρῳ ἐδίδοσαν
22 αὐτοῖς πιεῖν. Καὶ ἠθύμησαν τὰ νήπια αὐτῶν, καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν καὶ οἱ νεανίσκοι ἐξέλιπον ἀπὸ τῆς δίψης· καὶ ἐπιπτον ἐν ταῖς πλατείαις τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ἐν ταῖς διόδοις τῶν πυλῶν, καὶ οὐκ ἦν κραταίωσις ἔτι ἐν αὐτοῖς.
- 23 Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ἐπὶ Ὀζίαν καὶ τοὺς ἄρχοντας τῆς πόλεως, οἱ νεανίσκοι καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες καὶ τὰ παιδιά, καὶ ἀνεβόησαν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, καὶ εἶπαν ἐναντίον πάντων τῶν
24 πρεσβυτέρων, κρίναι ὁ Θεὸς ἀναμέσον ἡμῶν καὶ ὑμῶν, ὅτι ἐποιήσατε ἐν ἡμῖν ἀδικίαν μεγάλην, οὐ λαλήσαντες εἰρηνικὰ
25 μετὰ τῶν υἱῶν Ἀσσοῦρ. Καὶ νῦν οὐκ ἔστι βοηθὸς ἡμῶν, ἀλλὰ πέπρακεν ἡμᾶς ὁ Θεὸς εἰς τὰς χεῖρας αὐτῶν, τοῦ καταστρωθῆναι ἐναντίον αὐτῶν ἐν δίψει καὶ ἀπωλείᾳ μεγάλῃ.
- 26 Καὶ νῦν ἐπικαλέσασθε αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐκδοσθε τὴν πόλιν πᾶσαν εἰς προνομήν τῷ λαῷ Ὀλοφέρνου, καὶ πάσῃ τῇ δυνάμει αὐτοῦ.
- 27 Κρείσσον γὰρ ἡμῖν γεννηθῆναι αὐτοῖς εἰς διαρπαγὴν· ἐσόμεθα γὰρ εἰς δούλους, καὶ ζήσεται ἡ ψυχὴ ἡμῶν, καὶ οὐκ ὀψόμεθα τὸν θάνατον τῶν νηπίων ἡμῶν ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ἡμῶν, καὶ τὰς γυναῖκας καὶ τὰ τέκνα ἡμῶν ἐκλείπουσας τὰς ψυχὰς αὐτῶν.
- 28 Μαρτυρόμεθα ὑμῖν τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ τὸν Θεὸν ἡμῶν, καὶ Κύριον τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, ὃς ἐκδικεῖ ἡμᾶς κατὰ τὰς ἀμαρτίας ἡμῶν, καὶ κατὰ τὰ ἀμαρτήματα τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, ἵνα μὴ
29 ποιήσῃ κατὰ τὰ ῥήματα ταῦτα ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ σήμερον· καὶ ἐγένετο κλαυθμὸς μέγας ἐν μέσῳ τῆς ἐκκλησίας πάντων ὁμοθυμαδόν, καὶ ἐβόησαν πρὸς Κύριον τὸν Θεὸν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ.
- 30 Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς Ὀζίας, θαρσεῖτε ἀδελφοί, διακαρτερήσωμεν ἔτι πέντε ἡμέρας, ἐν αἷς ἐπιστρέψει Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ ἐφ' ἡμᾶς· οὐ γὰρ ἐγκαταλείψει ἡμᾶς εἰς τέλος.
- 31 Ἐὰν δὲ διέλθωσιν αὗται, καὶ μὴ ἔλθῃ ἐφ' ἡμᾶς βοήθεια, ποιήσω
32 κατὰ τὰ ῥήματα ὑμῶν. Καὶ ἐσκόρπισε τὸν λαὸν εἰς τὴν ἑαυτοῦ παρεμβολήν· καὶ ἐπὶ τὰ τείχη καὶ τοὺς πύργους τῆς

¹⁶ And these words pleased Holofernes and all his servants, and he appointed to do as they had spoken. ¹⁷ So the camp of the children of Ammon departed, and with them five thousand of the Assyrians, and they pitched in the valley, and took the waters, and the fountains of the waters of the children of Israel.

¹⁸ Then the children of Esau went up with the children of Ammon, and camped in the hill country over against Dothaim: and they sent some of them toward the south, and toward the east, over against Ekrebel, which is near unto Chusi, that is upon the brook Mochmur; and the rest of the army of the Assyrians camped in the plain, and covered the face of the whole land; and their tents and carriages were pitched to a very great multitude.

¹⁹ Then the children of Israel cried unto the Lord their God, because their heart failed, for all their enemies had compassed them round about, and there was no way to escape out from among them. ²⁰ Thus all the company of Assur remained about them, both their footmen, chariots, and horsemen, four and thirty days, so that all their vessels of water failed all the inhabitants of Bethulia. ²¹ And the cisterns were emptied, and they had not water to drink their fill for one day; for they gave them drink by measure. ²² Therefore their young children were out of heart, and their women and young men fainted for thirst, and fell down in the streets of the city, and by the passages of the gates, and there was no longer any strength in them.

²³ Then all the people assembled to Ozias, and to the chief of the city, both young men, and women, and children, and cried with a loud voice, and said before all the elders, ²⁴ God be judge between us and you: for ye have done us great injury, in that ye have not required peace of the children of Assur. ²⁵ For now we have no helper: but God hath sold us into their hands, that we should be thrown down before them with thirst and great destruction.

²⁶ Now therefore call them unto you, and deliver the whole city for a spoil to the people of Holofernes, and to all his army. ²⁷ For it is better for us to be made a spoil unto them, than to die for thirst: for we will be his servants, that our souls may live, and not see the death of our infants before our eyes, nor our wives nor our children to die. ²⁸ We take to witness against you the heaven and the earth, and our God and Lord of our fathers, which punisheth us according to our sins and the sins of our fathers, that he do not according as we have said this day. ²⁹ Then there was great weeping with one consent in the midst of the assembly; and they cried unto the Lord God with a loud voice.

³⁰ Then said Ozias to them, Brethren, be of good courage, let us yet endure five days, in the which space the Lord our God may turn his mercy toward us; for he will not forsake us utterly. ³¹ And if these days pass, and there come no help unto us, I will do according to your word. ³² And he dispersed the people, every one to their own charge; and they went unto the walls and towers of

their city, and sent the women and children into their houses; and they were brought very low in the city.

Now at that time Judith heard thereof, which was the daughter of Merari, the son of Ox, the son of Joseph, the son of Oziel, the son of Elcia, the son of Eliu, the son of Chelcias, the son of Eliab, the son of Nathanael, the son of Salamiel, the son of Sarasadai, the son of Israel.

² And Manasses was her husband, of her tribe and kindred, who died in the barley harvest. ² For as he stood overseeing them that bound sheaves in the field, the heat came upon his head, and he fell on his bed, and died in his city of Bethulia: and they buried him with his fathers in the field between Dothaim and Balamo.

⁴ So Judith was a widow in her house three years and four months. ⁵ And she made her a tent upon the top of her house, and put on sackcloth upon her loins, and wore her widow's apparel. ⁶ And she fasted all the days of her widowhood, save the eves of the sabbaths, and the sabbaths, and the eves of the new moons, and the new moons, and the feasts and solemn days of the house of Israel. ⁷ She was also of a goodly countenance, and very beautiful to behold: and her husband Manasses had left her gold, and silver, and menservants, and maidservants, and cattle, and lands; and she remained upon them. ⁸ And there was none that gave her an ill word; for she feared God greatly.

⁹ Now when she heard the evil words of the people against the governor, that they fainted for lack of water; for Judith had heard all the words that Ozias had spoken unto them, and that he had sworn to deliver the city unto the Assyrians after five days; ¹⁰ then she sent her waiting-woman, that had the government of all things that she had, to call Ozias and Chabris and Charmis, the ancients of the city. ¹¹ And they came unto her, and she said unto them, Hear me now, O ye governors of the inhabitants of Bethulia: for your words that ye have spoken before the people this day are not right, touching this oath which ye made and pronounced between God and you, and have promised to deliver the city to our enemies, unless within these days the Lord turn to help you. ¹² And now who are ye that have tempted God this day, and stand instead of God among the children of men?

¹³ And now try the Lord Almighty, but ye shall never know any thing. ¹⁴ For ye cannot find the depth of the heart of man, neither can ye perceive the things that he thinketh: then how can ye search out God, that hath made all these things, and know his mind, or comprehend his purpose? Nay, my brethren, provoke not the Lord our God to anger. ¹⁵ For if he will not help us within these five days, he hath power to defend us when he will, even every day, or to destroy us before our enemies.

¹⁶ Do not bind the counsels of the Lord our God: for God is not as man, that he may be threatened; neither is he as the son of man, that he should be wavering.

¹⁷ Therefore let us wait for salvation of him,

πόλεως αὐτῶν ἀπῆλθον, καὶ τὰς γυναῖκας καὶ τὰ τέκνα εἰς τοὺς οἴκους αὐτῶν ἐξαπέστειλε· καὶ ἦσαν ἐν ταπεινώσει πολλῇ ἐν τῇ πόλει.

Καὶ ἤκουσεν ἐν ἐκείναις ταῖς ἡμέραις Ἰουδίθ, θυγάτηρ 8
Μεραρί, υἱοῦ Ὠξ, υἱοῦ Ἰωσήφ, υἱοῦ Ὀζιήλ, υἱοῦ Ἐλκία, υἱοῦ
Ἡλίου, υἱοῦ Χελκίου, υἱοῦ Ἐλιὰβ, υἱοῦ Ναθαναήλ, υἱοῦ Σαλα-
μιήλ, υἱοῦ Σαρασαδαί, υἱοῦ Ἰσραήλ.

Καὶ ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς Μανασσῆς, τῆς φυλῆς αὐτῆς, καὶ τῆς 2
πατριᾶς αὐτῆς, καὶ ἀπέθανεν ἐν ἡμέραις θερισμοῦ κριθῶν·
ἐπέστη γὰρ ἐπὶ τοῦ δεσμεύοντος τὸ δρᾶγμα ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ, καὶ 3
ὁ καύσων ἦλθεν ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ τὴν
κλίνην, καὶ ἐτελεύτησεν ἐν Βετυλούᾳ τῇ πόλει αὐτοῦ, καὶ
ἔθαψαν αὐτὸν μετὰ τῶν πατέρων αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ ἀγρῷ τῷ ἀναμέσον
Δωθαῖμ καὶ Βελαμών.

Καὶ ἦν Ἰουδίθ ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ αὐτῆς χηρεύουσα ἔτη τρία καὶ 4
μῆνας τέσσαρας. Καὶ ἐποίησεν ἑαυτῇ σκηνὴν ἐπὶ τοῦ δώματος 5
τοῦ οἴκου αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐπέθηκεν ἐπὶ τὴν ὀσφύν αὐτῆς σάκκον·
καὶ ἦν ἐπ' αὐτῆς τὰ ἱμάτια τῆς χηρεύσεως αὐτῆς. Καὶ ἐνήστευε 6
πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας χηρεύσεως αὐτῆς χωρὶς προσαββάτων, καὶ
σαββάτων, καὶ προνουμηνίων, καὶ νουμηνίων, καὶ ἑορτῶν, καὶ
χαρμοσυνῶν οἴκου Ἰσραήλ. Καὶ ἦν καλὴ τῷ εἶδει, καὶ ὠραία 7
τῇ ὄψει σφόδρα· καὶ ὑπελείπετο αὐτῇ Μανασσῆς ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς
χρυσίον καὶ ἀργύριον, καὶ παῖδας καὶ παιδίσκας, καὶ κτήνη καὶ
ἀγροὺς, καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐπ' αὐτῶν. Καὶ οὐκ ἦν ὃς ἐπὶνεγκεν αὐτῇ 8
ῥῆμα πονηρὸν, ὅτι ἐφοβεῖτο τὸν Θεὸν σφόδρα.

Καὶ ἤκουσε τὰ ῥήματα τοῦ λαοῦ τὰ πονηρὰ ἐπὶ τὸν ἄρχοντα, 9
ὅτι ὀλιγοψύχησαν ἐπὶ τῇ σπάνει τῶν ὑδάτων· καὶ ἤκουσε
πάντας τοὺς λόγους Ἰουδίθ οὓς ἐλάλησε πρὸς αὐτοὺς Ὀζίας,
ὡς ὤμοσεν αὐτοῖς παραδώσειν τὴν πόλιν μετὰ ἡμέρας πέντε
τοῖς Ἀσσυρίοις. Καὶ ἀποστείλασα τὴν ἄβραν αὐτῆς τὴν 10
ἐφεστῶσαν πᾶσι τοῖς ὑπάρχουσιν αὐτῆς, ἐκάλεσεν Ὀζίαν καὶ
Χαβρίν καὶ Χαρμὶν τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς πόλεως αὐτῆς.
Καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτήν, καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς, ἀκούσατε δὴ μου 11
ἄρχοντες τῶν κατοικούντων ἐν Βετυλούᾳ· ὅτι οὐκ εὐθὺς ὁ λόγος
ὑμῶν ὃν ἐλαλήσατε ἐναντίον τοῦ λαοῦ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ταύτῃ, καὶ
ἐστήσατε τὸν ὄρκον ὃν ἐλαλήσατε ἀναμέσον τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ
ὑμῶν, καὶ εἶπατε ἐκδώσειν τὴν πόλιν τοῖς ἐχθροῖς ὑμῶν, ἐὰν μὴ
ἐν αὐταῖς ἐπιστρέψῃ ὁ Κύριος βοηθῆσαι ἡμῖν. Καὶ νῦν 12
τίνες ἐστὲ ὑμεῖς οἱ ἐπειράσατε τὸν Θεὸν ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ σήμε-
ρον, καὶ ἴστασθε ὑπὲρ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐν μέσῳ νύων ἀνθρώπων;

Καὶ νῦν Κύριον παντοκράτορα ἐξετάζετε, καὶ οὐθὲν ἐπι- 13
γνώσεσθε ἕως τοῦ αἰῶνος· ὅτι βάθος καρδίας ἀνθρώπου οὐχ 14
εὕρησете, καὶ λόγους τῆς διανοίας αὐτοῦ οὐ λήψεσθε, καὶ πῶς
τὸν Θεὸν ὃς ἐποίησε τὰ πάντα ταῦτα, ἐρευνήσετε, καὶ τὸν νοῦν
αὐτοῦ ἐπιγνώσεσθε, καὶ τὸν λογισμὸν αὐτοῦ κατανοήσετε;
μηδαμῶς, ἀδελφοί, μὴ παροργίζετε Κύριον τὸν Θεὸν ἡμῶν, ὅτι 15
ἐὰν μὴ βούληται ἐν ταῖς πέντε ἡμέραις βοηθῆσαι ἡμῖν, αὐτὸς
ἔχει τὴν ἐξουσίαν ἐν αἷς θέλει σκεπάσαι ἡμέραις, ἢ καὶ ὀλο-
θρεῦσαι ἡμᾶς πρὸ προσώπου τῶν ἐχθρῶν ἡμῶν.

Ὑμεῖς δὲ μὴ ἐνεχυράζετε τὰς βουλὰς Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, 16
ὅτι οὐχ ὡς ἄνθρωπος ὁ Θεὸς ἀπειληθῆναι, οὐδὲ ὡς υἱὸς ἀνθρώ-
που διατηθῆναι. Διόπερ ἀναμένοντες τὴν παρ' αὐτοῦ σωτη- 17

ρίαν, ἐπικαλεσώμεθα αὐτὸν εἰς βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, καὶ εἰσακούσεται τῆς φωνῆς ἡμῶν, ἐὰν ᾗ αὐτῷ ἄρεστόν.

18 Ὅτι οὐκ ἀνέστη ἐν ταῖς γενεαῖς ἡμῶν, οὐδὲ ἐστὶν ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ σήμερον οὔτε φυλὴ, οὔτε πατριὰ, οὔτε δῆμος, οὔτε πόλις ἐξ ἡμῶν, οἱ προσκυνοῦσι θεοῖς χειροποιήτοις, καθάπερ
19 ἐγένετο ἐν ταῖς πρότερον ἡμέραις, ὧν χάριν ἐδόθησαν εἰς ῥομφαίαν καὶ εἰς διαρπαγὴν οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν, καὶ ἔπεσον πτώμα
20 μέγα ἐνώπιον τῶν ἐχθρῶν ἡμῶν. Ἡμεῖς δὲ ἕτερον θεὸν οὐκ ἐπέγνωμεν πλὴν αὐτοῦ· ὅθεν ἐλπίζομεν ὅτι οὐχ ὑπερόψεται ἡμᾶς, οὐδ' ἀπὸ τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν.

21 Ὅτι ἐν τῷ ληφθῆναι ἡμᾶς, οὕτως καθήσεται πᾶσα ἡ Ἰουδαία, καὶ προνομευθήσεται τὰ ἅγια ἡμῶν, καὶ ζητήσῃ τὴν βεβήλωσιν
22 αὐτῶν ἐκ τοῦ στόματος ἡμῶν, καὶ τὸν φόνον τῶν ἀδελφῶν ἡμῶν, καὶ τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν τῆς γῆς, καὶ τὴν ἐρήμωσιν τῆς κληρονομίας ἡμῶν ἐπιστρέψει εἰς κεφαλὴν ἡμῶν ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν, οὗ ἐὰν δουλεύσωμεν ἐκεῖ, καὶ ἐσόμεθα εἰς πρόσκομμα καὶ εἰς
23 ὄνειδος ἐναντίον τῶν κτωμένων ἡμᾶς· ὅτι οὐ κατενυθνήσεται ἡ δουλεία ἡμῶν εἰς χάριν, ἀλλ' εἰς ἀτιμίαν θήσει αὐτὴν Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν.

24 Καὶ νῦν ἀδελφοὶ ἐπιδειξώμεθα τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς ἡμῶν, ὅτι ἐξ ἡμῶν κρέματα ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ ἅγια καὶ ὁ οἶκος καὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον ἐπεστήρικται ἐφ' ἡμῖν.

25 Παρὰ ταῦτα πάντα εὐχαριστήσωμεν Κυρίῳ τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, ὃς πειράζει ἡμᾶς καθὰ καὶ τοὺς πατέρας ἡμῶν. Μνήσθητε ὅσα ἐποίησε μετὰ Ἀβραάμ, καὶ ὅσα ἐπέειρε τὸν Ἰσαὰκ, καὶ ὅσα ἐγένετο τῷ Ἰακώβ ἐν Μεσοποταμίᾳ τῆς Συρίας ποιμαίνοντι τὰ
27 πρόβατα Δάβαν τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ τῆς μητρὸς αὐτοῦ· ὅτι οὐ καθὼς ἐκείνους ἐπύρωσεν εἰς ἑτασμόν τῆς καρδίας αὐτῶν, καὶ ἡμᾶς οὐκ ἐξεδίκησεν, ἀλλ' εἰς νουθέτησιν μαστιγοῖ Κύριος τοὺς ἐγγίζοντας αὐτῷ.

28 Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὴν Ὁζίας, πάντα ὅσα εἶπας, ἀγαθὴ καρδίᾳ ἐλάλησας, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὃς ἀντιστήσεται τοῖς λόγοις σου.
29 Ὅτι οὐκ ἐν τῇ σήμερον ἡ σοφία σου πρόδηλός ἐστιν, ἀλλὰ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἡμερῶν σου ἔγνω πᾶς ὁ λαὸς τὴν σύνεσίν σου,
30 καθότι ἀγαθὸν ἐστὶ τὸ πλάσμα τῆς καρδίας σου. Ἀλλ' ὁ λαὸς ἐδίψησε σφόδρα, καὶ ἠνάγκασαν ποιῆσαι ἡμᾶς καθὰ ἐλαλήσαμεν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἀπαγαγεῖν ὄρκον ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ὃν οὐ παραβησόμεθα.
31 Καὶ νῦν δεθήητι περὶ ἡμῶν, ὅτι γυνὴ εὐσεβὴς εἶ, καὶ ἀποστελεῖ Κύριος τὸν ὑετὸν εἰς πλήρωσιν τῶν λάκκων ἡμῶν, καὶ οὐκ ἐκλείψομεν ἔτι.

32 Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς Ἰουδὶθ, ἀκούσατέ μου, καὶ ποιήσω πρᾶγμα ὃ ἀφίξεται εἰς γενεὰς γενεῶν υἱοῖς τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν.
33 Ὑμεῖς στήσεσθε ἐπὶ τῆς πύλης τὴν νύκτα ταύτην, καὶ ἐξελεύσομαι ἐγὼ μετὰ τῆς ἄβρας μου, καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις μεθ' ἃς εἶπατε παραδώσειν τὴν πόλιν τοῖς ἐχθροῖς ἡμῶν, ἐπισκέψεται
34 Κύριος τὸν Ἰσραὴλ ἐν χειρί μου. Ὑμεῖς δὲ οὐκ ἐξερευνήσετε τὴν πρᾶξίν μου, οὐ γὰρ ἐρῶ ὑμῖν, ἕως τοῦ τελεσθῆναι ἃ ἐγὼ ποιῶ.

35 Καὶ εἶπεν Ὁζίας καὶ οἱ ἄρχοντες πρὸς αὐτὴν, πορεύου εἰς εἰρήνην, καὶ Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς ἔμπροσθέν σου εἰς ἐκδίκησιν τῶν
36 ἐχθρῶν ἡμῶν. Καὶ ἀποστρέψαντες ἐκ τῆς σκηνῆς, ἐπορεύθησαν ἐπὶ τὰς διατάξεις αὐτῶν.

and call upon him to help us, and he will hear our voice, if it please him.

¹⁸ For there arose none in our age, neither is there any now in these days, neither tribe, nor family, nor people, nor city, among us, which worship gods made with hands, as hath been aforetime. ¹⁹ For the which cause our fathers were given to the sword, and for a spoil, and had a great fall before our enemies. ²⁰ But we know none other God, therefore we trust that he will not despise us, nor any of our nation.

²¹ For if we be taken so, all Judea shall lie waste, and our sanctuary shall be spoiled; and he will require the profanation thereof at our mouth. ²² And the slaughter of our brethren, and the captivity of the country, and the desolation of our inheritance, will he turn upon our heads among the Gentiles, wheresoever we shall be in bondage; and we shall be an offence and a reproach to all them that possess us. ²³ For our servitude shall not be directed to favour; but the Lord our God shall turn it to dishonour.

²⁴ Now therefore, O brethren, let us shew an example to our brethren, because their hearts depend upon us, and the sanctuary, and the house, and the altar, rest upon us.

²⁵ Moreover let us give thanks to the Lord our God, which trieth us, even as he did our fathers. ²⁶ Remember what things he did to Abraham, and how he tried Isaac, and what happened to Jacob in Mesopotamia of Syria, when he kept the sheep of Laban his mother's brother. ²⁷ For he hath not tried us in the fire, as he did them, for the examination of their hearts, neither hath he taken vengeance on us: but the Lord doth scourge them that come near unto him, to admonish them.

²⁸ Then said Ozias to her, All that thou hast spoken hast thou spoken with a good heart, and there is none that may gainsay thy words. ²⁹ For this is not the first day wherein thy wisdom is manifested; but from the beginning of thy days all the people have known thy understanding, because the disposition of thine heart is good. ³⁰ But the people were very thirsty, and compelled us to do unto them as we have spoken, and to bring an oath upon ourselves, which we will not break. ³¹ Therefore now pray thou for us, because thou art a godly woman, and the Lord will send us rain to fill our cisterns, and we shall faint no more.

³² Then said Judith unto them, Hear me, and I will do a thing, which shall go throughout all generations to the children of our nation. ³³ Ye shall stand this night in the gate, and I will go forth with my waitingwoman: and within the days that ye have promised to deliver the city to our enemies the Lord will visit Israel by mine hand. ³⁴ But enquire not ye of mine act: for I will not declare it unto you, till the things be finished that I do.

³⁵ Then said Ozias and the princes unto her, Go in peace, and the Lord God be before thee, to take vengeance on our enemies. ³⁶ So they returned from the tent, and went to their wards.

Then Judith fell upon her face, and put ashes upon her head, and uncovered the sackcloth wherewith she was clothed; and about the time that the incense of that evening was offered in Jerusalem in the house of the Lord, Judith cried with a loud voice, and said, ² O Lord God of my father Simeon, to whom thou gavest a sword to take vengeance of the strangers, who loosened the girdle of a maid to defile her, and discovered the thigh to her shame, and polluted her virginity to her reproach; for thou saidst, It shall not be so; and yet they did so: ³ wherefore thou gavest their rulers to be slain, so that they dyed their bed in blood, being deceived, and smotest the servants with their lords, and the lords upon their thrones; ⁴ and hast given their wives for a prey, and their daughters to be captives, and all their spoils to be divided among thy dear children; which were moved with thy zeal, and abhorred the pollution of their blood, and called upon thee for aid: O God, O my God, hear me also a widow.

⁵ For thou hast wrought not only those things, but also the things which fell out before, and which ensued after; thou hast thought upon the things which are now, and which are to come. ⁶ Yea, what things thou didst determine were ready at hand, and said, Lo, we are here: for all thy ways are prepared, and thy judgments are in thy foreknowledge.

⁷ For, behold, the Assyrians are multiplied in their power; they are exalted with horse and man; they glory in the strength of their footmen; they trust in shield, and spear, and bow, and sling; and know not that thou art the Lord that breakest the battles: the Lord is thy name. ⁸ Throw down their strength in thy power, and bring down their force in thy wrath: for they have purposed to defile thy sanctuary, and to pollute the tabernacle where thy glorious name resteth, and to cast down with sword the horn of thy altar.

⁹ Behold their pride, and send thy wrath upon their heads: give into mine hand, which am a widow, the power that I have conceived. ¹⁰ Smite by the deceit of my lips the servant with the prince, and the prince with the servant: break down their stateliness by the hand of a woman. ¹¹ For thy power standeth not in multitude, nor thy might in strong men: for thou art a God of the afflicted, thou art an helper of the oppressed, an upholder of the weak, a protector of the forlorn, a saviour of them that are without hope.

¹² I pray thee, I pray thee, O God of my father, and God of the inheritance of Israel, Lord of the heavens and earth, Creator of the waters, King of every creature, hear thou my prayer: ¹³ and make my speech and deceit to be their wound and stripe, who have purposed cruel things against thy covenant, and thy hallowed house, and against the top of Sion, and against the house of the possession of thy children.

¹⁴ And make every nation and tribe to acknowledge that thou art the God of all power and might, and that there is none other that protecteth the people of Israel but thou.

Ἰουδὶθ δὲ ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ πρόσωπον, καὶ ἐπέθετο σποδὸν ἐπὶ τὴν 9 κεφαλὴν αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐγύμνωσεν ὃν ἐνεδιδύσκετο σάκκον· καὶ ἦν ἄρτι προσφερόμενον ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ εἰς τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Θεοῦ τὸ θυμίαμα τῆς ἑσπέρας ἐκείνης· καὶ ἐβόησε φωνῇ μεγάλη Ἰου- 2 δὶθ πρὸς Κύριον, καὶ εἶπε, κύριε ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ πατρός μου Συμεὼν, ᾧ ἔδωκας ἐν χειρὶ ῥομφαίαν εἰς ἐκδίκησιν ἀλλογενῶν, οἱ ἔλυσαν μῆτραν παρθένου εἰς μίasma, καὶ ἐγύμνωσαν μηρὸν εἰς αἰσχύνην, καὶ ἐβεβήλωσαν μῆτραν εἰς ὄνειδος· εἶπας γὰρ, οὐχ οὕτως ἔσται, καὶ ἐποίησαν· ἀνθ' ὧν ἔδωκας ἄρχοντας 3 αὐτῶν εἰς φόνον, καὶ τὴν στρωμνὴν αὐτῶν ἢ ἠδέασατο τὴν ἀπάτην αὐτῶν, εἰς αἷμα, καὶ ἐπάταξας δούλους ἐπὶ δυνάσταις, καὶ δυνάστας ἐπὶ θρόνους αὐτῶν· καὶ ἔδωκας γυναῖκας αὐτῶν 4 εἰς προνομὴν, καὶ θυγατέρας εἰς αἰχμαλωσίαν, καὶ πάντα τὰ σκῦλα εἰς διαίρεσιν υἱῶν ἡγαπημένων ὑπὸ σοῦ, οἱ καὶ ἐζήλωσαν τὸν ζῆλόν σου, καὶ ἐβδελύξαντο μίasma αἵματος αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπεκαλέσαντό σε εἰς βοήθον· ὁ Θεὸς ὁ Θεὸς ὁ ἐμὸς, καὶ εἰσάκουσον ἐμοῦ τῆς χήρας.

Σὺ γὰρ ἐποίησας τὰ πρότερα ἐκείνων, καὶ ἐκείνα, καὶ τὰ 5 μετέπειτα, καὶ τὰ νῦν, καὶ τὰ ἐπερχόμενα διανοήθης, καὶ ἐγενήθησαν ἂ ἐνενοήθης, καὶ παρέστησαν ἂ ἐβουλευσω, καὶ εἶπαν, 6 ἰδοὺ πάρεσμεν· πᾶσαι γὰρ αἱ ὁδοί σου ἔτοιμοι, καὶ ἡ κρίσις σου ἐν προγνώσει.

Ἰδοὺ γὰρ Ἀσσύριοι ἐπληθύνθησαν ἐν δυνάμει αὐτῶν, ὑψώθη- 7 σαν ἐφ' ἵππῳ καὶ ἀναβάτῃ, ἐγαυρίασαν ἐν βραχίονι πεζῶν, ἤλπισαν ἐν ἀσπίδι καὶ ἐν γαισῶ καὶ τόξῳ καὶ σφενδόνη, καὶ οὐκ ἔγνωσαν ὅτι σὺ εἶ Κύριος συντρίβων πολέμου· Κύριος ὀνομά σοι. Σὺ ράξον αὐτῶν τὴν ἰσχὺν ἐν δυνάμει σου, καὶ κάταξον 8 τὸ κράτος αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ θυμῷ σου· ἐβουλευσαντο γὰρ βεβηλῶσαι τὰ ἁγία σου, μιᾶναι τὸ σκῆνωμα τῆς καταπαύσεως τοῦ ὀνόματος τῆς δόξης σου, καὶ καταβαλεῖν σιδήρῳ κέρας θυσιαστηρίου σου.

Βλέψον εἰς ὑπερηφανίαν αὐτῶν, ἀπόστειλον τὴν ὀργὴν σου 9 εἰς κεφαλὰς αὐτῶν· δὸς ἐν χειρὶ μου τῆς χήρας ὃ διανοήθην κράτος, πάταξον δούλον ἐκ χειλέων ἀπάτης μου ἐπ' ἄρχοντι, 10 καὶ ἄρχοντα ἐπὶ θεράποντι αὐτοῦ, θραύσον αὐτῶν τὸ ἀνάστημα ἐν χειρὶ θηλείας. Οὐ γὰρ ἐν πλήθει τὸ κράτος σου, οὐδὲ ἡ 11 δυναστεία σου ἐν ἰσχύουσιν, ἀλλὰ ταπεινῶν εἶ Θεός; ἐλαττόνων εἶ βοηθός, ἀντιλήπτωρ ἀσθενούντων, ἀπεγνωσμένων σκεπαστής, ἀπηλπισμένων σωτήρ.

Ναὶ ναὶ ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ πατρός μου, καὶ Θεὸς κληρονομίας Ἰσ- 12 ραὴλ, δέσποτα τῶν οὐρανῶν καὶ τῆς γῆς, κτίστα τῶν ὑδάτων, βασιλεὺ πάσης κτίσεώς σου, σὺ εἰσάκουσον τῆς δεήσεώς μου, καὶ δὸς λόγον μου καὶ ἀπάτην εἰς τραῦμα καὶ μώλωπα αὐτῶν, 13 οἱ κατὰ τῆς διαθήκης σου, καὶ οἶκον ἡγιασμένου σου, καὶ κορυφῆς Σιών, καὶ οἴκου κατασχέσεως υἱῶν σου ἐβουλευσαντο σκληρά.

Καὶ ποιήσον ἐπὶ πᾶν τὸ ἔθνος σου, καὶ πάσης φυλῆς 14 ἐπίγνωσιν, τοῦ εἰδῆσαι ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Θεὸς πάσης δυνάμεως καὶ κράτους, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἄλλος ὑπερασπίζων τοῦ γένους Ἰσραὴλ, εἰ μὴ σὺ.

- 10 Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἐπαύσατο βοῶσα πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν Ἰσραὴλ,
2 καὶ συνετέλεσε πάντα τὰ ῥήματα ταῦτα, καὶ ἀνέστη ἀπὸ τῆς
πτώσεως καὶ ἐκάλεσε τὴν ἄβραν αὐτῆς, καὶ κατέβη εἰς τὸν
οἶκον ἐν ᾧ διέτριβεν ἐν αὐτῷ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις τῶν σαββάτων,
3 καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἑορταῖς αὐτῆς, καὶ περιέλατο τὸν σάκκον ὃν ἐν-
εδεδύκει, καὶ ἐξεδύσατο τὰ ἱμάτια τῆς χηρέσεως αὐτῆς, καὶ
περικλύσατο τὸ σῶμα ὕδατι, καὶ ἐχρίσατο μύρῳ παχεῖ, καὶ
διέταξε τὰς τρίχας τῆς κεφαλῆς αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐπέθετο μίτραν ἐπ'
αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐνεδύσατο τὰ ἱμάτια τῆς εὐφροσύνης αὐτῆς, ἐν οἷς
ἑστολίζετο ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις τῆς ζωῆς τοῦ ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς Μα-
4 νασσῆ· καὶ ἔλαβε σανδάλια εἰς τοὺς πόδας αὐτῆς, καὶ περιέθετο
τοὺς χλιδῶνας, καὶ τὰ ψέλλια, καὶ τοὺς δακτυλίους, καὶ τὰ
ἐνώτια, καὶ πάντα τὸν κόσμον αὐτῆς· καὶ ἐκαλλωπίσατο
σφόδρα εἰς ἀπάτησιν ὀφθαλμῶν ἀνδρῶν, ὅσοι ἂν ἴδωσιν
αὐτήν.
5 Καὶ ἔδωκε τῇ ἄβρα αὐτῆς ἀσκοπυτίνην οἶνου, καὶ καμψάκην
ἐλαίου, καὶ πήραν ἐπλήρωσεν ἀλφίτων καὶ παλάθης καὶ ἄρτων
καθαρῶν, καὶ περιδίπλωσε πάντα τὰ ἀγγεία αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐπέθη-
6 κεν ἐπ' αὐτῇ. Καὶ ἐξῆλθοσαν ἐπὶ τὴν πύλην τῆς πόλεως
Βετυλούα, καὶ εὔροσαν ἐφεστῶτας ἐπ' αὐτῆς Ὀζίαν, καὶ τοὺς
πρεσβυτέρους τῆς πόλεως Χαβρὶν καὶ Χαρμίν.
7 Ὡς δὲ εἶδον αὐτήν, καὶ ἦν ἡλλοιωμένον τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτῆς,
καὶ τὴν στολὴν μεταβεβληκυῖαν αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐθαύμασαν ἐπὶ τῷ
8 κάλλει αὐτῆς ἐπὶ πολὺ σφόδρα, καὶ εἶπαν αὐτῇ, ὁ Θεὸς ὁ Θεὸς
τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν δῶκε σε εἰς χάριν, καὶ τελειώσαι τὰ ἐπιτηδευ-
ματά σου εἰς γαυρίαμα υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ὑψῶμα Ἱερουσαλήμ·
καὶ προσεκύνησε τῷ Θεῷ,
9 Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς, ἐπιτάξατε ἀνοῖξαί μοι τὴν πύλην τῆς
πόλεως, καὶ ἐξελεύσομαι εἰς τελείωσιν τῶν λόγων, ὧν ἐλαλή-
σατε μετ' ἐμοῦ· καὶ συνέταξαν τοῖς νεανίσκοις ἀνοῖξαι αὐτῇ
καθότι ἐλάλησαν.
10 Καὶ ἐποίησαν οὕτως· καὶ ἐξῆλθεν Ἰουδιθ, αὐτὴ καὶ ἡ παι-
δίσκη αὐτῆς μετ' αὐτῆς· ἀπεσκόπευον δὲ αὐτήν οἱ ἄνδρες τῆς
πόλεως ἕως οὗ κατέβη τὸ ὄρος, ἕως διήλθε τὸν αὐλῶνα, καὶ οὐκ
11 ἔτι ἐθεώρουν αὐτήν. Καὶ ἐπορεύοντο ἐν τῷ αὐλῶνι εἰς εὐθείαν,
12 καὶ συνήντησεν αὐτῇ προφυλακὴ τῶν Ἀσσυρίων. Καὶ συν-
έλαβον αὐτήν, καὶ ἐπηρώτησαν, τίνων εἶ; καὶ πόθεν ἔρχῃ; καὶ
ποῦ πορεύῃ; καὶ εἶπε, θυγάτηρ εἰμὶ τῶν Ἑβραίων, καὶ ἀπο-
διδράσκω ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν, ὅτι μέλλουσι δίδοσθαι ὑμῖν
13 εἰς κατάβρωμα. Καγὼν ἔρχομαι εἰς τὸ πρόσωπον Ὁλοφέρνου
ἀρχιστρατήγου δυνάμεως ὑμῶν, τοῦ ἀναγγεῖλαι ῥήματα ἀλη-
θείας, καὶ δείξω πρὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ ὁδὸν καθ' ἣν πορεύεται,
καὶ κυριεύσει πάσης τῆς ὀρεινῆς, καὶ οὐ διαφωνήσῃ τῶν ἀνδρῶν
αὐτοῦ σὰρξ μία, οὐδὲ πνεῦμα ζωῆς.
14 Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσαν οἱ ἄνδρες τὰ ῥήματα αὐτῆς, καὶ κατενόησαν
τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτῆς, καὶ ἦν ἐναντίον αὐτῶν θαυμάσιον τῷ κάλλει
15 σφόδρα, καὶ εἶπαν πρὸς αὐτήν, σέσωκας τὴν ψυχὴν σου, σπέν-
σασα καταβῆναι εἰς πρόσωπον τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν· καὶ νῦν
πρόσελθε ἐπὶ τὴν σκηνὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀφ' ἡμῶν προπέμψουσί
16 σε ἕως παραδώσουσί σε εἰς τὰς χεῖρας αὐτοῦ. Ἐὰν δὲ στῇς
ἐναντίον αὐτοῦ, μὴ φοβηθῇς τῇ καρδίᾳ σου, ἀλλὰ ἀνάγγειλον
κατὰ τὰ ῥήματά σου, καὶ εὖ σε ποιήσει.

Now after that she had ceased to cry unto the God of Israel, and had made an end of all these words, ² she rose where she had fallen down, and called her maid, and went down into the house, in the which she abode in the sabbath days, and in her feast days, ³ and pulled off the sackcloth which she had on, and put off the garments of her widowhood, and washed her body all over with water, and anointed herself with precious ointment, and braided the hair of her head, and put on a tire upon it, and put on her garments of gladness, wherewith she was clad during the life of Manasses her husband. ⁴ And she took sandals upon her feet, and put about her her bracelets, and her chains, and her rings, and her earrings, and all her ornaments, and decked herself bravely, to allure the eyes of all men that should see her.

⁵ Then she gave her maid a bottle of wine, and a cruse of oil, and filled a bag with parched corn, and lumps of figs, and with fine bread; so she folded all these things together, and laid them upon her. ⁶ Thus they went forth to the gate of the city of Bethulia, and found standing there Ozias, and the ancients of the city, Chabris and Charmis.

⁷ And when they saw her, that her countenance was altered, and her apparel was changed, they wondered at her beauty very greatly, and said unto her, ⁸ The God, the God of our fathers, give thee favour, and accomplish thine enterprizes to the glory of the children of Israel, and to the exaltation of Jerusalem. Then they worshipped God.

⁹ And she said unto them, Command the gates of the city to be opened unto me, that I may go forth to accomplish the things whereof ye have spoken with me. So they commanded the young men to open unto her, as she had spoken.

¹⁰ And when they had done so, Judith went out, she, and her maid with her; and the men of the city looked after her, until she was gone down the mountain, and till she had passed the valley, and could see her no more. ¹¹ Thus they went straight forth in the valley: and the first watch of the Assyrians met her; ¹² and they took her, and asked her, Of what people art thou? and whence comest thou? and whither goest thou? And she said, I am a woman of the Hebrews, and am fled from them: for they shall be given you to be consumed: ¹³ and I am coming before Holofernes the chief captain of your army, to declare words of truth; and I will shew him a way, whereby he shall go, and win all the hill country, without losing the body or life of any one of his men.

¹⁴ Now when the men heard her words, and beheld her countenance, they wondered greatly at her beauty, and said unto her, ¹⁵ Thou hast saved thy life, in that thou hast hastened to come down to the presence of our lord: now therefore come to his tent, and some of us shall conduct thee, until they have delivered thee to his hands. ¹⁶ And when thou standest before him, be not afraid in thine heart, but shew unto him according to thy word; and he will entreat thee well.

¹⁷ Then they chose out of them an hundred men to accompany her and her maid; and they brought her to the tent of Holofernes. ¹⁸ Then was there a concourse throughout all the camp: for her coming was noised among the tents, and they came about her, as she stood without the tent of Holofernes, till they told him of her. ¹⁹ And they wondered at her beauty, and admired the children of Israel because of her, and every one said to his neighbour, Who would despise this people, that have among them such women? surely it is not good that one man of them be left, who being let go might deceive the whole earth. ²⁰ And they that lay near Holofernes went out, and all his servants, and they brought her into the tent.

²¹ Now Holofernes rested upon his bed under a canopy, which was woven with purple, and gold, and emeralds, and precious stones. ²² So they shewed him of her; and he came out before his tent with silver lamps going before him. ²³ And when Judith was come before him and his servants, they all marvelled at the beauty of her countenance; and she fell down upon her face, and did reverence unto him: and his servants took her up.

Then said Holofernes unto her, Woman, be of good comfort, fear not in thine heart: for I never hurt any that was willing to serve Nabuchodonosor, the king of all the earth. ² Now therefore, if thy people that dwelleth in the mountains had not set light by me, I would not have lifted up my spear against them: but they have done these things to themselves. ³ But now tell me wherefore thou art fled from them, and art come unto us: for thou art come for safeguard; be of good comfort, thou shalt live this night, and hereafter: ⁴ for none shall hurt thee, but entreat thee well, as they do the servants of king Nabuchodonosor my lord.

⁵ Then Judith said unto him, Receive the words of thy servant, and suffer thine handmaid to speak in thy presence, and I will declare no lie to my lord this night. ⁶ And if thou wilt follow the words of thine handmaid, God will bring the thing perfectly to pass by thee; and my lord shall not fail of his purposes.

⁷ As Nabuchodonosor king of all the earth liveth, and as his power liveth, who hath sent thee for the upholding of every living thing: for not only men shall serve him by thee, but also the beasts of the field, and the cattle, and the fowls of the air, shall live by thy power under Nabuchodonosor and all his house. ⁸ For we have heard of thy wisdom and thy policies, and it is reported in all the earth, that thou only art excellent in all the kingdom, and mighty in knowledge, and wonderful in feats of war.

⁹ Now as concerning the matter, which Achior did speak in thy council, we have heard his words; for the men of Bethulia saved him, and he declared unto them all that he had spoken unto thee. ¹⁰ Therefore, O lord and governor, reject not his word; but lay it up in thine heart, for it is true: for our nation shall not be punished, neither can the sword prevail against them, except they sin against their God.

Καὶ ἐπέλεξαν ἐξ αὐτῶν ἄνδρας ἑκατὸν, καὶ παρέζευξαν αὐτῇ ¹⁷
καὶ τῇ ἄβρᾳ αὐτῆς, καὶ ἤγαγον αὐτὰς ἐπὶ τὴν σκηνὴν Ὀλοφέρνη-
νου. Καὶ ἐγένετο συνδρομὴ ἐν πάσῃ τῇ παρεμβολῇ· διεβοήθη ¹⁸
γὰρ εἰς τὰ σκηνώματα ἡ παρουσία αὐτῆς· καὶ ἐλθόντες ἐκύκ-
λουν αὐτὴν ὡς εἰστῆκει ἔξω τῆς σκηνῆς Ὀλοφέρνηνου, ἕως
προσῆγγειλαν αὐτῷ περὶ αὐτῆς. Καὶ ἐθαύμαζον ἐπὶ τῷ κάλλει ¹⁹
αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐθαύμαζον τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἰσραὴλ ἀπ' αὐτῆς· καὶ εἶπεν
ἕκαστος πρὸς τὸν πλησίον αὐτοῦ, τίς καταφρονήσει τοῦ λαοῦ
τούτου, ὃς ἔχει ἐν ἑαυτῷ γυναῖκας τοιαύτας; ὅτι οὐ καλόν
ἐστὶν ὑπολείπεσθαι ἐξ αὐτῶν ἄνδρα ἓνα, οἱ ἀφεθέντες δυνή-
σσονται κατασοφίσασθαι πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν· καὶ ἐξῆλθον οἱ παρα- ²⁰
καθεύδοντες Ὀλοφέρνην, καὶ πάντες οἱ θεράποντες αὐτοῦ, καὶ
εἰσῆγαγον αὐτὴν εἰς τὴν σκηνήν.

Καὶ ἦν Ὀλοφέρνης ἀναπαυόμενος ἐπὶ τῆς κλίνης αὐτοῦ ἐν ²¹
τῷ κωνωπέῳ, ὃ ἦν ἐκ πορφύρας καὶ χρυσίου καὶ σμαράγδου
καὶ λίθων πολυτελῶν καθυφασμένων. Καὶ ἀνήγγειλαν αὐτῷ ²²
περὶ αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς τὸ προσκύνιον, καὶ λαμπάδες
ἀργυραὶ προάγουσαι αὐτοῦ. Ὡς δὲ ἦλθε κατὰ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ ²³
Ἰουδὶθ, καὶ τῶν θεραπόντων αὐτοῦ, ἐθαύμασαν πάντες ἐπὶ τῷ
κάλλει τοῦ προσώπου αὐτῆς· καὶ πεσοῦσα ἐπὶ πρόσωπον προσ-
εκύνησεν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἤγειραν αὐτὴν οἱ δούλοι αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὴν Ὀλοφέρνης, θάρσησον γύναι, μὴ φοβη- ¹¹
θῇς τῇ καρδίᾳ σου, ὅτι ἐγὼ οὐκ ἐκάκωσα ἄνθρωπον ὅστις ἠρέτικε
δουλεῖν βασιλεῖ Ναβουχοδονόσορ πάσης τῆς γῆς. Καὶ νῦν ὁ ²
λαός σου ὁ κατοικῶν τὴν ὄρειν, εἰ μὴ ἐφάβυσάν με, οὐκ ἂν ἦρα
τὸ δόρυ μου ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, ἀλλ' αὐτοὶ ἑαυτοῖς ἐποίησαν ταῦτα. Καὶ ³
νῦν λέγε μοι, τίνας ἔνεκεν ἀπέδρας ἀπ' αὐτῶν, καὶ ἦλθες πρὸς ἡμᾶς;
ἦκεις γὰρ εἰς σωτηρίαν· θάρσει, ἐν τῇ νυκτὶ ταύτῃ ζήσῃ, καὶ εἰς τὸ
λοιπόν. Οὐ γάρ ἐστιν ὃς ἀδικήσει σε, ἀλλ' εὖ σε ποιήσει, καθὰ ⁴
γίνεται τοῖς δούλοις τοῦ κυρίου μου βασιλέως Ναβουχοδονόσορ.

Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὸν Ἰουδὶθ, δέξαι τὰ ῥήματα τῆς δούλης ⁵
σου, καὶ λαλησάτω ἡ παιδίσκη σου κατὰ πρόσωπόν σου, καὶ
οὐκ ἀναγγελῶ ψεῦδος τῷ κυρίῳ μου ἐν τῇ νυκτὶ ταύτῃ. Καὶ ⁶
ἐὰν κατακολουθήσῃς τοῖς λόγοις τῆς παιδίσκης σου, τελείως
πράγμα ποιήσει μετὰ σοῦ ὁ Θεὸς, καὶ οὐκ ἀποπεσεῖται ὁ κύριός
μου τῶν ἐπιτηδευμάτων αὐτοῦ.

Ζῇ γὰρ βασιλεὺς Ναβουχοδονόσορ πάσης τῆς γῆς, καὶ ζῇ ⁷
τὸ κράτος αὐτοῦ, ὃς ἀπέστειλέ σε εἰς κατόρθωσιν πάσης ψυχῆς,
ὅτι οὐ μόνον ἄνθρωποι διὰ σέ δουλεύουσιν αὐτῷ, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὰ
θηρία τοῦ ἀγροῦ, καὶ τὰ κτήνη, καὶ τὰ πετεινὰ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ διὰ
τῆς ἰσχύος σου ζήσονται ἐπὶ Ναβουχοδονόσορ, καὶ πάντα τὸν ⁸
οἶκον αὐτοῦ. Ἠκούσαμεν γὰρ τὴν σοφίαν σου, καὶ τὰ
πανουργήματα τῆς ψυχῆς σου, καὶ ἀνγγέλη πάσῃ τῇ γῇ, ὅτι
σὺ μόνος ἀγαθὸς ἐν πάσῃ βασιλείᾳ, καὶ δυνατὸς ἐν ἐπιστήμῃ,
καὶ θαυμαστὸς ἐν στρατεύμασι πολέμου.

Καὶ νῦν ὁ λόγος ὃν ἐλάλησεν Ἀχιὼρ ἐν τῇ συνεδρείᾳ σου, ⁹
ἠκούσαμεν τὰ ῥήματα αὐτοῦ, ὅτι περιεποιήσαντο αὐτὸν οἱ
ἄνδρες Βετυλούα, καὶ ἀνήγγειλεν αὐτοῖς πάντα ὅσα ἐξελάλησε
παρὰ σοί. Διὸ, δέσποτα κύριε, μὴ παρέλθῃς τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ, ¹⁰
ἀλλὰ κατάθου αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ σου, ὅτι ἀληθὴς ἐστίν· οὐ
γὰρ ἐκδικᾶται τὸ γένος ἡμῶν, οὐ κατισχύει ῥομφαία ἐπ' αὐτοὺς,
ἐὰν μὴ ἀμάρτωσιν εἰς τὸν Θεὸν αὐτῶν.

- 11 Καὶ νῦν ἵνα μὴ γένηται ὁ κύριός μου ἔκβολος καὶ ἄπρακτος, καὶ ἐπιπεσεῖται θάνατος ἐπὶ πρόσωπον αὐτῶν, καὶ κατελάβετο αὐτοὺς ἀμάρτημα ἐν ᾧ παροργιοῦσι τὸν Θεὸν αὐτῶν, ὅπηνίκα
- 12 ἂν ποιήσωσιν ἀτοπίαν. Ἐπεὶ γὰρ ἐξέλιπεν αὐτοὺς τὰ βρώματα, καὶ ἐσπανίσθη πᾶν ὕδωρ, ἐβουλεύσαντο ἐπιβαλεῖν τοῖς κτήνεσιν αὐτῶν, καὶ πάντα ὅσα διεστείλατο αὐτοῖς ὁ Θεὸς ἐν
- 13 τοῖς νόμοις αὐτοῦ μὴ φαγεῖν, διέγνωσαν δαπανῆσαι. Καὶ τὰς ἀπαρχὰς τοῦ σίτου, καὶ τὰς δεκάτας τοῦ οἴνου καὶ τοῦ ἐλαίου, ἃ διεφύλαξαν ἀγιάσαντες τοῖς ἱερεῦσι τοῖς παρεστηκόσιν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἀπέναντι τοῦ προσώπου τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, κεκρίκασιν ἐξαναλῶσαι, ὧν οὐδὲ ταῖς χερσὶ καθήκεν
- 14 ἄψασθαι οὐδένα τῶν ἐκ τοῦ λαοῦ. Καὶ ἀπεστάλκασιν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ὅτι καὶ οἱ ἐκεῖ κατοικοῦντες ἐποίησαν ταῦτα, τοὺς
- 15 μετοικίσαντας αὐτοῖς τὴν ἄφεσιν παρὰ τῆς γερουσίας. Καὶ ἔσται ὡς ἂν ἀναγγείλῃ αὐτοῖς καὶ ποιήσωσι, δοθήσονται σοι εἰς ὄλεθρον ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ.
- 16 Ὅθεν ἐγὼ ἡ δούλη σου ἐπιγνούσα ταῦτα πάντα, ἀπέδρων ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν· καὶ ἀπέστειλέ με ὁ Θεὸς ποιῆσαι μετὰ σοῦ πράγματα, ἐφ' οἷς ἐκστήσεται πᾶσα ἡ γῆ ὅσοι ἔαν ἀκούσωσιν αὐτά. Ὅτι ἡ δούλη σου θεοσεβής ἐστι, καὶ θεραπεύουσα νυκτὸς καὶ ἡμέρας τὸν Θεὸν τοῦ οὐρανοῦ· καὶ νῦν μενῶ παρὰ σοὶ, κύριέ μου, καὶ ἐξελεύσεται ἡ δούλη σου κατὰ νύκτα εἰς τὴν φάραγγα, καὶ προσεύξομαι πρὸς τὸν Θεόν· καὶ ἐρεῖ μοι πότε
- 18 ἐποίησαν τὰ ἀμαρτήματα αὐτῶν· καὶ ἔλθουσα προσανοίσω σοι· ἐξελεύσῃ σὺν πάσῃ τῇ δυνάμει σου, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὃς ἀντιστήσεται σοι ἐξ αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἄξω σε διὰ μέσου τῆς Ἰουδαίας, ἕως τοῦ ἐλθεῖν ἀπέναντι Ἱερουσαλὴμ· καὶ θήσω τὸν δίφρον σου ἐν μέσῳ αὐτῆς, καὶ ἄξεις αὐτοὺς ὡς πρόβατα οἷς οὐκ ἔστι ποιμήν· καὶ οὐ γρύξει κύων τῇ γλώσσει αὐτοῦ ἀπέναντί σου· ὅτι ταῦτα ἐλαλήθη μοι κατὰ πρόγνωσίν μου, καὶ ἀπηγγέλη μοι, καὶ ἀπεστάλην ἀναγγεῖλαί σοι.
- 20 Καὶ ἤρσαν οἱ λόγοι αὐτῆς ἐναντίον Ὀλοφέρνην, καὶ ἐναντίον πάντων τῶν θεραπόντων αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐθαύμασαν
- 21 ἐπὶ τῇ σοφίᾳ αὐτῆς, καὶ εἶπαν, οὐκ ἔστι τοιαύτη γυνὴ ἀπ' ἄκρου ἕως ἄκρου τῆς γῆς, καλῶ προσώπῳ καὶ συνέσει λόγων.
- 22 Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὴν Ὀλοφέρνης, εὖ ἐποίησεν ὁ Θεὸς ἀποστείλας σε ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ λαοῦ, τοῦ γεννηθῆναι ἐν χερσὶν ἡμῶν
- 23 κράτος· ἐν δὲ τοῖς φανλίσασιν τὸν κύριόν μου, ἀπώλειαν. Καὶ νῦν ἀστείαι εἰ σὺ ἐν τῷ εἶδει σου, καὶ ἀγαθὴ ἐν τοῖς λόγοις σου· ὅτι ἔαν ποιήσῃς καθὰ ἐλάλησας, ὁ Θεός σου ἔσται μου Θεός, καὶ σὺ ἐν οἴκῳ βασιλέως Ναβουχοδονόσορ καθήσῃ, καὶ ἔσῃ ὀνομαστὴ παρὰ πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν.
- 12 Καὶ ἐκέλευσεν εἰσαγαγεῖν αὐτὴν οὗ ἐτίθετο τὰ ἀργυρώματα, καὶ αὐτοῦ συνέταξε καταστρῶσαι αὐτῇ ἀπὸ τῶν ὀσποποιημάτων αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοῦ οἴνου αὐτοῦ πίνειν.
- 2 Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰουδὶθ, οὐ φάγομαι ἐξ αὐτῶν, ἵνα μὴ γένηται σκάνδαλον, ἀλλ' ἐκ τῶν ἡκολουθηκότων μοι χορηγηθήσεται.
- 3 Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὴν Ὀλοφέρνης, ἔαν δὲ ἐκλίπῃ τὰ ὄντα μετὰ σοῦ, πόθεν ἐξοίσομέν σοι δοῦναι ὅμοια αὐτοῖς; οὐ γάρ ἐστι μεθ' ἡμῶν ἐκ τοῦ ἔθνους σου.

¹¹ And now, that my lord be not defeated and frustrate of his purpose, even death is now fallen upon them, and their sin hath overtaken them, wherewith they will provoke their God to anger, whensoever they shall do that which is not fit to be done: ¹² for their victuals fail them, and all their water is scant, and they have determined to lay hands upon their cattle, and purposed to consume all those things, that God hath forbidden them to eat by his laws: ¹³ and are resolved to spend the firstfruits of the corn, and the tenths of wine and oil, which they had sanctified, and reserved for the priests that serve in Jerusalem before the face of our God; the which things it is not lawful for any of the people so much as to touch with their hands. ¹⁴ For they have sent some to Jerusalem, because they also that dwell there have done the like, to bring them a licence from the senate. ¹⁵ Now when they shall bring them word, they will forthwith do it, and they shall be given thee to be destroyed the same day.

¹⁶ Wherefore I thine handmaid, knowing all this, am fled from their presence; and God hath sent me to work things with thee, whereat all the earth shall be astonished, and whosoever shall hear it. ¹⁷ For thy servant is religious, and serveth the God of heaven day and night; now therefore, my lord, I will remain with thee, and thy servant will go out by night into the valley, and I will pray unto God, and he will tell me when they have committed their sins: ¹⁸ and I will come and shew it unto thee: then thou shalt go forth with all thine army, and there shall be none of them that shall resist thee. ¹⁹ And I will lead thee through the midst of Judea, until thou come before Jerusalem; and I will set thy throne in the midst thereof; and thou shalt drive them as sheep that have no shepherd, and a dog shall not so much as open his mouth at thee: for these things were told me according to my foreknowledge, and they were declared unto me, and I am sent to tell thee.

²⁰ Then her words pleased Holofernes and all his servants; and they marvelled at her wisdom, and said, ²¹ There is not such a woman from one end of the earth to the other, both for beauty of face, and wisdom of words. ²² Likewise Holofernes said unto her, God hath done well to send thee before the people, that strength might be in our hands, and destruction upon them that lightly regard my lord. ²³ And now thou art both beautiful in thy countenance, and witty in thy words: surely if thou do as thou hast spoken, thy God shall be my God, and thou shalt dwell in the house of king Nabuchodonosor, and shalt be renowned through the whole earth.

Then he commanded to bring her in where his plate was set; and bade that they should prepare for her of his own meats, and that she should drink of his own wine.

² And Judith said, I will not eat thereof, lest there be an offence: but provision shall be made for me of the things that I have brought. ³ Then Holofernes said unto her, If thy provision should fail, how should we give thee the like? for there be none with us of thy nation.

⁴ Then said Judith unto him, As thy soul liveth, my lord, thine handmaid shall not spend those things that I have, before the Lord work by mine hand the things that he hath determined.

⁵ Then the servants of Holofernes brought her into the tent, and she slept till midnight, and she arose when it was toward the morning watch, ⁶ and sent to Holofernes, saying, Let my lord now command that thine handmaid may go forth unto prayer.

⁷ Then Holofernes commanded his guard that they should not stay her: thus she abode in the camp three days, and went out in the night into the valley of Bethulia, and washed herself in a fountain of water by the camp. ⁸ And when she came out, she besought the Lord God of Israel to direct her way to the raising up of the children of her people. ⁹ So she came in clean, and remained in the tent, until she did eat her meat at evening.

¹⁰ And in the fourth day Holofernes made a feast to his own servants only, and called none of the officers to the banquet. ¹¹ Then said he to Bagoas the eunuch, who had charge over all that he had, Go now, and persuade this Hebrew woman which is with thee, that she come unto us, and eat and drink with us. ¹² For, lo, it will be a shame for our person, if we shall let such a woman go, not having had her company; for if we draw her not unto us, she will laugh us to scorn.

¹³ Then went Bagoas from the presence of Holofernes, and came to her, and he said, Let not this fair damsel fear to come to my lord, and to be honoured in his presence, and drink wine, and be merry with us, and be made this day as one of the daughters of the Assyrians, which serve in the house of Nabuchodonosor.

¹⁴ Then said Judith unto him, Who am I now, that I should gainsay my lord? surely whatsoever pleaseth him I will do speedily, and it shall be my joy unto the day of my death. ¹⁵ So she arose, and decked herself with her apparel and all her woman's attire, and her maid went and laid soft skins on the ground for her over against Holofernes, which she had received of Bagoas for her daily use, that she might sit and eat upon them.

¹⁶ Now when Judith came in and sat down, Holofernes his heart was ravished with her, and his mind was moved, and he desired greatly her company: for he waited a time to deceive her, from the day that he had seen her.

¹⁷ Then said Holofernes unto her, Drink now, and be merry with us. ¹⁸ So Judith said, I will drink now, my lord, because my life is magnified in me this day more than all the days since I was born. ¹⁹ Then she took and ate and drank before him what her maid had prepared.

²⁰ And Holofernes took great delight in her, and drank much more wine than he had drunk at any time in one day since he was born.

Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰουδὶθ πρὸς αὐτὸν, ζῇ ἡ ψυχὴ σου, κύριέ μου, ὅτι 4 οὐ δαπανήσαι ἡ δούλη σου τὰ ὄντα μετ' ἐμοῦ, ἕως ἂν ποιήσῃ Κύριος ἐν χειρί μου ἃ ἐβουλεύσατο.

Καὶ ἡγάγosan αὐτὴν οἱ θεράποντες Ὀλοφέρνην εἰς τὴν 5 σκηνὴν, καὶ ὕπνωσε μέχρι μεσούσης τῆς νυκτός· καὶ ἀνέστη πρὸς τὴν ἑωθινὴν φυλακὴν, καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς Ὀλοφέρνην, 6 λέγουσα, ἐπιταξάτω δὴ ὁ κύριός μου, ἕασαι τὴν δούλην σου ἐπὶ προσευχῇ ἐξελθεῖν.

Καὶ προσέταξεν Ὀλοφέρνης τοῖς σωματοφύλαξι μὴ δια- 7 κωλύειν αὐτήν· καὶ παρέμεινεν ἐν τῇ παρεμβολῇ ἡμέρας τρεῖς, καὶ ἐξεπορεύετο κατὰ νύκτα εἰς τὴν φάραγγα Βετυλούα, καὶ ἐβαπτίζετο ἐν τῇ παρεμβολῇ ἐπὶ τῆς πηγῆς τοῦ ὕδατος. Καὶ 8 ὡς ἀνέβη, ἐδέετο τοῦ Κυρίου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ κατευθῆναι τὴν ὁδὸν αὐτῆς εἰς ἀνάστημα τῶν υἱῶν τοῦ λαοῦ αὐτοῦ. Καὶ 9 εἰσπορευομένη καθαρὰ παρέμενε τῇ σκηνῇ, μέχρις οὗ προσ- ηνέγκατο τὴν τροφὴν αὐτῆς πρὸς ἑσπέραν.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τετάρτῃ, ἐποίησεν Ὀλοφέρνης 10 πότον τοῖς δούλοις αὐτοῦ μόνοις, καὶ οὐκ ἐκάλεσεν εἰς τὴν χρῆσιν οὐδένα τῶν πρὸς ταῖς χρεῖαις. Καὶ εἶπε Βαγῶα τῷ 11 ευνούχῳ, ὃς ἦν ἀφεστηκὼς ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν αὐτοῦ, πείσον δὴ πορευθεὶς τὴν γυναῖκα τὴν Ἑβραίαν ἣ ἐστὶ παρὰ σοὶ, τοῦ ἐλθεῖν πρὸς ἡμᾶς, καὶ φαγεῖν καὶ πιεῖν μεθ' ἡμῶν. Ἴδου γὰρ 12 αἰσχρὸν τῷ προσώπῳ ἡμῶν, εἰ γυναῖκα τοιαύτην παρήσομεν οὐχ ὁμιλήσαντες αὐτῇ, ὅτι ἐὰν ταύτην μὴ ἐπισπασώμεθα, κατα- γελάσεται ἡμῶν.

Καὶ ἐξῆλθε Βαγῶας ἀπὸ προσώπου Ὀλοφέρνην, καὶ εἰσῆλθε 13 πρὸς αὐτήν, καὶ εἶπε, μὴ ὀκνησάτω δὴ ἡ παιδίσκη ἡ καλὴ αὕτη ἐλθοῦσα πρὸς τὸν κύριόν μου, δοξασθῆναι κατὰ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ, καὶ πίεσαι μεθ' ἡμῶν εἰς εὐφροσύνην οἶνον, καὶ γεννηθῆ- ναι ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ταύτῃ ὡς θυγάτηρ μία τῶν υἱῶν Ἀσσοῦρ, αἱ παρεστήκασιν ἐν οἴκῳ Ναβουχοδονόσορ.

Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὸν Ἰουδὶθ, καὶ τίς εἰμι ἐγὼ ἀντεροῦσα τῷ 14 κυρίῳ μου; ὅτι πᾶν ὃ ἔσται ἐν τοῖς ὀφθαλμοῖς αὐτοῦ ἀρεστὸν, σπεύσασα ποιήσω, καὶ ἔσται τοῦτο ἀγαλλίαμα ἕως ἡμέρας θανάτου μου. Καὶ διαναστᾶσα ἐκοσμήθη τῷ ἱματισμῷ καὶ 15 παντὶ τῷ κόσμῳ τῷ γυναικείῳ· καὶ προσῆλθεν ἡ δούλη αὐτῆς, καὶ ἔστρωσεν αὐτῇ κατέναντι Ὀλοφέρνην χαμαὶ τὰ κώδια, ἃ ἔλαβε παρὰ Βαγῶου εἰς τὴν καθημερινὴν διαίταν αὐτῆς, εἰς τὸ ἐσθίειν κατακλινομένην ἐπ' αὐτῶν.

Καὶ εἰσελθοῦσα ἀνέπεσεν Ἰουδὶθ, καὶ ἐξέστη ἡ καρδιά 16 Ὀλοφέρνην ἐπ' αὐτήν, καὶ ἐσαλεύθη ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἦν κατεπίθυμος σφόδρα τοῦ συγγενέσθαι μετ' αὐτῆς· καὶ ἐτήρει καιρὸν τοῦ ἀπατῆσαι αὐτήν, ἀφ' ἧς ἡμέρας εἶδεν αὐτήν.

Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτήν Ὀλοφέρνης, πῖε δὴ, καὶ γενήθητι μεθ' 17 ἡμῶν εἰς εὐφροσύνην. Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰουδὶθ, πίομαι δὴ, κύριε, 18 ὅτι ἐμεγαλύνθη τὸ ζῆν μου ἐν ἐμοὶ σήμερον παρὰ πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας τῆς γενέσεώς μου. Καὶ λαβοῦσα ἔφαγε καὶ ἔπιε κατ- 19 ἑναντι αὐτοῦ ἃ ἡτοίμασεν ἡ δούλη αὐτῆς.

Καὶ ἠψφράνθη Ὀλοφέρνης ἀπ' αὐτῆς, καὶ ἔπιεν οἶνον 20 πολὺν σφόδρα ὅσον οὐκ ἔπιε πώποτε ἐν ἡμέρᾳ μιᾷ ἀφ' οὗ ἐγεννήθη.

- 13 Ὡς δὲ ὀψία ἐγένετο, ἐσπούδασαν οἱ δοῦλοι αὐτοῦ ἀναλύειν· καὶ Βαγώας συνέκλεισε τὴν σκηνὴν ἔξωθεν, καὶ ἀπέκλεισε τοὺς παρεστῶτας ἐκ προσώπου τοῦ κυρίου αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπόχοντο εἰς τὰς κοίτας αὐτῶν· ἦσαν γὰρ πάντες κεκοπωμένοι, διὰ τὸ ἐπὶ 2 πλεῖον γεγονέναι τὸν πότον. Ὑπελείφθη δὲ Ἰουδὶθ μόνη ἐν τῇ σκηνῇ, καὶ Ὀλοφέρνης προπεπτωκῶς ἐπὶ τὴν κλίνην αὐτοῦ· ἦν γὰρ περικεχυμένος αὐτῷ ὁ οἶνος.
- 3 Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰουδὶθ τῇ δούλῃ αὐτῆς στήναι ἔξω τοῦ κοιτῶνος αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐπιτηρεῖν τὴν ἔξοδον αὐτῆς καθάπερ καθ' ἡμέραν, ἐξελεύσεσθαι γὰρ ἔφη ἐπὶ τὴν προσευχὴν αὐτῆς· καὶ τῷ Βαγῳά ἐλάλησε κατὰ τὰ ῥήματα ταῦτα.
- 4 Καὶ ἀπῆλθον πάντες ἐκ προσώπου, καὶ οὐδεὶς κατελείφθη ἐν τῷ κοιτῶνι ἀπὸ μικροῦ ἕως μεγάλου· καὶ στᾶσα Ἰουδὶθ παρὰ τὴν κλίνην αὐτοῦ, εἶπεν ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ αὐτῆς, Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς πάσης δυνάμεως, ἐπίβλεψον ἐν τῇ ὥρᾳ ταύτῃ ἐπὶ τὰ 5 ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν μου, εἰς ὑψῶμα Ἱερουσαλήμ· ὅτι νῦν καιρὸς ἀντιλαβέσθαι τῆς κληρονομίας σου, καὶ ποιῆσαι τὸ ἐπιτήδευμά μου, εἰς θραῦμα ἐχθρῶν οἱ ἐπανεστῆσαν ἡμῖν.
- 6 Καὶ προσελθοῦσα τῷ κανόνι τῆς κλίνης ὃς ἦν πρὸς κεφαλῆς 7 Ὀλοφέρνου, καθεῖλε τὸν ἀκινάνην αὐτοῦ ἀπ' αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐγγίσασα τῆς κλίνης, ἐδράξατο τῆς κόμης τῆς κεφαλῆς αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπε, κραταίωσόν με ὁ Θεὸς Ἰσραὴλ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ταύτῃ.
- 8 Καὶ ἐπάταξεν εἰς τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ δις ἐν τῇ ἰσχύϊ αὐτῆς, 9 καὶ ἀφείλε τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ ἀπ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπεκύλισε τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῆς στρωμνῆς, καὶ ἀφείλε τὸ κωνωπεῖον ἀπὸ τῶν στύλων· καὶ μετ' ὀλίγον ἐξῆλθε, καὶ παρέδωκε τῇ ἄβρᾳ 10 αὐτῆς τὴν κεφαλὴν Ὀλοφέρνου. Καὶ ἐνέβαλεν αὐτὴν εἰς τὴν πήραν τῶν βρωμάτων αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐξῆλθον αἱ δύο ἅμα κατὰ τὸν ἐθισμὸν αὐτῶν· καὶ διελθοῦσαι τὴν παρεμβολήν, ἐκύκλωσαν τὴν φάραγγα ἐκείνην, καὶ προσανέβησαν τὸ ὄρος Βετυλούα, καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς τὰς πύλας αὐτῆς.
- 11 Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰουδὶθ μακρόθεν τοῖς φυλάσσουσιν ἐπὶ τῶν πυλῶν, ἀνοίξατε, ἀνοίξατε δὴ τὴν πύλην, μεθ' ἡμῶν ὁ Θεὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ποιῆσαι ἔτι ἰσχὺν ἐν Ἰσραὴλ καὶ κράτος κατὰ τῶν ἐχθρῶν, καθὰ καὶ σήμερον ἐποίησε.
- 12 Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἤκουσαν οἱ ἄνδρες τῆς πόλεως αὐτῆς τὴν φωνὴν αὐτῆς, ἐσπούδασαν τοῦ καταβῆναι εἰς τὴν πύλην τῆς πόλεως αὐτῶν· καὶ συνεκάλεσαν τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς πόλεως.
- 13 Καὶ συνέδραμον πάντες ἀπὸ μικροῦ ἕως μεγάλου, ὅτι παράδοξον ἦν αὐτοῖς τὸ ἐλθεῖν αὐτὴν, καὶ ἥνοιξαν τὴν πύλην, καὶ ὑπεδέξαντο αὐτάς· καὶ ἄψαντες πῦρ εἰς φαῦσιν, περιεκύκλωσαν αὐτάς.
- 14 Ἡ δὲ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, αἰνεῖτε τὸν Θεόν, αἰνεῖτε· αἰνεῖτε τὸν Θεόν, ὃς οὐκ ἀπέστησε τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τοῦ οἴκου Ἰσραὴλ, ἀλλ' ἔθρανσε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ἡμῶν διὰ 15 χειρὸς μου ἐν τῇ νυκτὶ ταύτῃ. Καὶ προελοῦσα τὴν κεφαλὴν ἐκ τῆς πήρας, ἔδειξε, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, ἰδοὺ ἡ κεφαλὴ Ὀλοφέρνου ἀρχιστρατήγου δυνάμεως Ἀσσοῦρ, καὶ ἰδοὺ τὸ κωνωπεῖον ἐν ᾧ κατέκειτο ἐν ταῖς μέθαις αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτὸν ὁ Κύριος ἐν χειρὶ θηλείας. Καὶ ζῇ Κύριος ὃς διεφύλαξέ με ἐν τῇ 16 ὁδῷ μου ἥ ἐπορεύθην, ὅτι ἠπάτησεν αὐτὸν τὸ πρόσωπόν μου εἰς ἀπώλειαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἐποίησεν ἀμύρτημα μετ' ἐμοῦ εἰς μῖασμα καὶ αἰσχύνην.

Now when the evening was come, his servants made haste to depart, and Bagoas shut his tent without, and dismissed the waiters from the presence of his lord; and they went to their beds: for they were all weary, because the feast had been long. ² And Judith was left alone in the tent, and Holofernes lying along on his bed: for he was filled with wine.

³ Now Judith had commanded her maid to stand without her bedchamber, and to wait for her coming forth, as she did daily: for she said she would go forth to her prayers, and she spake to Bagoas according to the same purpose.

⁴ So all went forth, and none was left in the bedchamber, neither little nor great. Then Judith, standing by his bed, said in her heart, O Lord God of all power, look at this present upon the work of mine hands for the exaltation of Jerusalem. ⁵ For now is the time to help thine inheritance, and to execute my enterprise to the destruction of the enemies which are risen against us.

⁶ Then she came to the pillar of the bed, which was at Holofernes' head, and took down his fauchion from thence, ⁷ and approached to his bed, and took hold of the hair of his head, and said, Strengthen me, O Lord God of Israel, this day.

⁸ And she smote twice upon his neck with all her might, and she took away his head from him, ⁹ and tumbled his body down from the bed, and pulled down the canopy from the pillars; and anon after she went forth, and gave Holofernes his head to her maid; ¹⁰ and she put it in her bag of meat: so they twain went together according to their custom *unto prayer*: and when they passed the camp, they compassed the valley, and went up the mountain of Bethulia, and came to the gates thereof.

¹¹ Then said Judith afar off to the watchmen at the gate, Open, open now the gate: God, *even* our God, is with us, to shew *his* power yet in Israel, and his strength against the enemy, as he hath even done this day.

¹² Now when the men of her city heard her voice, they made haste to go down to the gate of their city, and they called the elders of the city. ¹³ And then they ran all together, both small and great, for it was strange unto them that she was come: so they opened the gate, and received them, and made a fire for a light, and stood round about them.

¹⁴ Then she said to them with a loud voice, Praise, praise God, praise God, I say, for he hath not taken away his mercy from the house of Israel, but hath destroyed our enemies by mine hands this night. ¹⁵ So she took the head out of the bag, and shewed it, and said unto them, Behold the head of Holofernes, the chief captain of the army of Assur, and behold the canopy, wherein he did lie in his drunkenness; and the Lord hath smitten him by the hand of a woman. ¹⁶ As the Lord liveth, who hath kept me in my way that I went, my countenance hath deceived him to his destruction, and *yet* hath he not committed sin with me, to defile and shame me.

¹⁷ Then all the people were wonderfully astonished, and bowed themselves, and worshipped God, and said with one accord, Blessed be thou, O our God, which hast this day brought to nought the enemies of thy people. ¹⁸ Then said Ozias unto her, O daughter, blessed art thou of the most high God above all the women upon the earth; and blessed be the Lord God, which hath created the heavens and the earth, which hath directed thee to the cutting off of the head of the chief of our enemies. ¹⁹ For this thy confidence shall not depart from the heart of men, which remember the power of God for ever. ²⁰ And God turn these things to thee for a perpetual praise, to visit thee in good things, because thou hast not spared thy life for the affliction of our nation, but hast revenged our ruin, walking a straight way before our God. And all the people said, So be it, so be it.

Then said Judith unto them, Hear me now, my brethren, and take this head, and hang it upon the highest place of your walls.

² And so soon as the morning shall appear, and the sun shall come forth upon the earth, take ye every one his weapons, and go forth every valiant man out of the city, and set ye a captain over them, as though ye would go down into the field toward the watch of the Assyrians; but go not down. ³ Then they shall take their armour, and shall go into their camp, and raise up the captains of the army of Assur, and they shall run to the tent of Holofernes, but shall not find him: then fear shall fall upon them, and they shall flee before your face. ⁴ So ye, and all that inherit the coast of Israel, shall pursue them, and overthrow them as they go. ⁵ But before ye do these things, call me Achior the Ammonite, that he may see and know him that despised the house of Israel, and that sent him to us, as it were to his death.

⁶ Then they called Achior out of the house of Ozias; and when he was come, and saw the head of Holofernes in a man's hand in the assembly of the people, he fell down on his face, and his spirit failed.

⁷ But when they had recovered him, he fell at Judith's feet, and revered her, and said, Blessed art thou in all the tabernacle of Juda, and in all nations, which hearing thy name shall be astonished. ⁸ Now therefore tell me all the things that thou hast done in these days. Then Judith declared unto him in the midst of the people all that she had done, from the day that she went forth until that hour she spake unto them. ⁹ And when she had left off speaking, the people shouted with a loud voice, and made a joyful noise in their city.

¹⁰ And when Achior had seen all that the God of Israel had done, he believed in God greatly, and circumcised the flesh of his foreskin, and was joined unto the house of Israel unto this day.

¹¹ And as soon as the morning arose, they hanged the head of Holofernes upon the wall, and every man took his weapons, and they went forth by bands unto the straits of the mountain.

Καὶ ἐξέστη πᾶς ὁ λαὸς σφόδρα, καὶ κύψαντες προσεκύνησαν ¹⁷ τῷ Θεῷ, καὶ εἶπαν ὁμοθυμαδὸν, εὐλογητὸς εἶ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ ἐξουθενώσας ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ σήμερον τοὺς ἐχθροὺς τοῦ λαοῦ σου. Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῇ Ὁζίας, εὐλογητὴ σὺ θυγάτηρ τῷ Θεῷ τῷ ¹⁸ ὑψίστῳ παρὰ πάσας τὰς γυναῖκας τὰς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ εὐλογημένος Κύριος ὁ Θεός, ὃς ἔκτισε τοὺς οὐρανοὺς καὶ τὴν γῆν, ὃς κατεύθυνέ σε εἰς τραῦμα κεφαλῆς ἄρχοντος ἐχθρῶν ἡμῶν, ὅτι ¹⁹ οὐκ ἀποστήσεται ἡ ἐλπίς σου ἀπὸ καρδίας ἀνθρώπων μνημονεύοντων ἰσχύν Θεοῦ ἕως αἰῶνος. Καὶ ποιῆσαι σοι αὐτὰ ²⁰ ὁ Θεός εἰς ὕψος αἰώνιον, τοῦ ἐπισκέψασθαί σε ἐν ἀγαθοῖς, ἀνθ' ὧν οὐκ ἐφείσω τῆς ψυχῆς σου διὰ τὴν ταπείνωσιν τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν, ἀλλ' ἐπεξήλθες πτώματι ἡμῶν, ἐπ' εὐθείαν πορευθεῖσα ἐνώπιον τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν· καὶ εἶπαν πᾶς ὁ λαός, γένοιτο, γένοιτο.

Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς Ἰουδὶθ, ἀκούσατε δὴ μου, ἀδελφοί, ¹⁴ καὶ λαβόντες τὴν κεφαλὴν ταύτην, κρεμάσατε αὐτὴν ἐπὶ τῆς ἐπάλξεως τοῦ τείχους ὑμῶν.

Καὶ ἔσται ἡνῖκα ἂν διαφάσῃ ὁ ὄρθρος, καὶ ἐξέλθῃ ὁ ἥλιος ² ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, ἀναλήψεσθε ἕκαστος τὰ σκευὴ τὰ πολεμικὰ ὑμῶν, καὶ ἐξελεύσεσθε πᾶς ἀνὴρ ἰσχύων ἔξω τῆς πόλεως, καὶ δώσετε ἀρχηγὸν εἰς αὐτοὺς, ὡς καταβαίνοντες ἐπὶ τὸ πεδίον εἰς τὴν προφυλακὴν υἱὸν Ἀσσοῦρ, καὶ οὐ καταβήσεσθε. Καὶ ἀνα- ³ λαβόντες οὗτοι τὰς πανοπλίας αὐτῶν, πορεύονται εἰς τὴν παρεμβολὴν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐγεροῦσι τοὺς στρατηγούς τῆς δυνάμεως Ἀσσοῦρ, καὶ συνδραμοῦνται ἐπὶ τὴν σκηνὴν Ὀλοφέρνου, καὶ οὐχ εὐρήσουσιν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐπιπεσεῖται ἐπ' αὐτοὺς φόβος, καὶ φεύξονται ἀπὸ προσώπου ὑμῶν. Καὶ ἐπακολουθήσαντες ⁴ ὑμεῖς, καὶ πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες πᾶν ὄριον Ἰσραὴλ, καταστρώσατε αὐτοὺς ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς αὐτῶν. Πρὸ δὲ τοῦ ποιῆσαι ⁵ ταῦτα, καλέσατέ μοι Ἀχιὼρ τὸν Ἀρμανίτην, ἵνα ἰδὼν ἐπιγνῶ τὸν ἐκφαυλίσαντα τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ αὐτὸν ὡς εἰς θάνατον ἀποστείλαντα εἰς ἡμᾶς.

Καὶ ἐκάλεσαν τὸν Ἀχιὼρ ἐκ τοῦ οἴκου Ὁζία· ὡς δὲ ἦλθε, ⁶ καὶ εἶδε τὴν κεφαλὴν Ὀλοφέρνου ἐν χειρὶ ἀνδρὸς ἐνὸς ἐν τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ τοῦ λαοῦ, ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ πρόσωπον, καὶ ἐξελύθη τὸ πνεῦμα αὐτοῦ.

Ὡς δὲ ἀνέλαβον αὐτὸν, προσέπεσε τοῖς ποσὶν Ἰουδὶθ, καὶ ⁷ προσεκύνησε τῷ προσώπῳ αὐτῆς, καὶ εἶπεν, εὐλογημένη σὺ ἐν παντὶ σκηνώματι Ἰούδα, καὶ ἐν παντὶ ἔθνει, οἵτινες ἀκούσαντες τὸ ὄνομά σου ταραχθήσονται. Καὶ νῦν ἀνάγγειλόν μοι ὅσα ⁸ ἐποίησας ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ταύταις· καὶ ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτῷ Ἰουδὶθ ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ λαοῦ πάντα ὅσα ἦν πεποιηκυῖα, ἀφ' ἧς ἡμέρας ἐξῆλθεν ἕως οὗ ἐλάλει αὐτοῖς. Ὡς δὲ ἐπαύσατο λαλοῦσα, ⁹ ἠλάλαξεν ὁ λαὸς φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, καὶ ἔδωκε φωνὴν εὐφρόσυνον ἐν τῇ πόλει αὐτῶν.

Ἰδὼν δὲ Ἀχιὼρ πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησεν ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ¹⁰ ἐπίστευσε τῷ Θεῷ σφόδρα, καὶ περιετέμετο τὴν σάρκα τῆς ἀκροβυστίας αὐτοῦ, καὶ προσετέθη πρὸς τὸν οἶκον Ἰσραὴλ ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης.

Ἡνῖκα δὲ ὁ ὄρθρος ἀνέβη, καὶ ἐκρέμασαν τὴν κεφαλὴν Ὀλο- ¹¹ φέρνου ἐκ τοῦ τείχους, καὶ ἀνέλαβε πᾶς ἀνὴρ Ἰσραὴλ τὰ ὅπλα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐξήλθοσαν κατὰ σπείρας ἐπὶ τὰς ἀναβάσεις τοῦ ὄρους.

- 12 Οἱ δὲ υἱοὶ Ἀσσοῦρ, ὡς εἶδον αὐτοὺς, διέπεμψαν ἐπὶ τοὺς ἡγουμένους αὐτῶν· οἱ δὲ ἦλθον ἐπὶ στρατηγούς καὶ χιλιάρχους καὶ ἐπὶ πάντα ἄρχοντα αὐτῶν·
- 13 Καὶ παρεγένοντο ἐπὶ τὴν σκηνὴν Ὀλοφέρνου, καὶ εἶπαν τῷ ὄντι ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν αὐτοῦ, ἔγειρον δὴ τὸν κύριον ἡμῶν, ὅτι ἐτόλμησαν οἱ δούλοι καταβαίνειν ἐφ' ἡμᾶς εἰς πόλεμον, ἵνα ἐξολοθρευθῶσιν εἰς τέλος.
- 14 Καὶ εἰσῆλθε Βαγῶας, καὶ ἔκρουσε τὴν αὐλαίαν τῆς σκηνῆς·
- 15 ὑπενοεῖτο γὰρ καθεύδειν αὐτὸν μετὰ Ἰουδίθ. Ὡς δὲ οὐδεὶς ἐπήκουσε, διαστείλας εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὸν κοιτῶνα, καὶ εὗρεν αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τῆς χελωνίδος ἐρριμμένον νεκρὸν, καὶ ἡ κεφαλὴ αὐτοῦ
- 16 ἀφῆρητο ἀπ' αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐβόησε φωνῇ μεγάλῃ μετὰ κλαυθμοῦ καὶ στεναγμοῦ καὶ βοῆς ἰσχυρᾶς, καὶ διέρρηξε τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτοῦ.
- 17 Καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὴν σκηνὴν οὗ ἦν Ἰουδίθ καταλύουσα, καὶ
- 18 οὐκ εὗρεν αὐτήν· καὶ ἐξεπήδησεν εἰς τὸν λαὸν, κρᾶζων, ἠθέτησαν οἱ δούλοι, ἐποίησεν αἰσχύνῃν μία γυνὴ τῶν Ἑβραίων, εἰς τὸν οἶκον τοῦ βασιλέως Ναβουχοδονόσορ, ὅτι ἰδοὺ Ὀλοφέρνης
- 19 χαμαὶ, καὶ ἡ κεφαλὴ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπ' αὐτῷ. Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσαν ταῦτα τὰ ῥήματα οἱ ἄρχοντες τῆς δυνάμεως Ἀσσοῦρ, τοὺς χιτῶνας αὐτῶν διέρρηξαν, καὶ ἐταράχθη ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτῶν σφόδρα, καὶ ἐγένετο αὐτῶν κραυγὴ καὶ βοή μεγάλη σφόδρα ἐν μέσῳ τῆς παρεμβολῆς.
- 15 Καὶ ὡς ἤκουσαν οἱ ἐν τοῖς σκηνώμασιν ὄντες, ἐξέστησαν ἐπὶ τὸ γεγονός· καὶ ἐπέπεσεν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς φόβος καὶ τρόμος, καὶ οὐκ ἦν ἄνθρωπος μένων κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ πλησίον ἔτι, ἀλλ' ἐκχυθέντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἔφευγον ἐπὶ πᾶσαν ὁδὸν τοῦ πεδίου καὶ
- 3 τῆς ὀρεινῆς. Καὶ οἱ παρεμβεβληκότες ἐν τῇ ὀρεινῇ κύκλῳ Βετυλούα καὶ ἐτράπησαν εἰς φυγὴν· καὶ τότε οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ πᾶς ἀνὴρ πολεμιστὴς ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐξεχύθησαν ἐπ' αὐτούς.
- 4 Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν Ὀζίας εἰς Βαιτομασθαῖμ, καὶ Χωβαῖ, καὶ Χωλὰ, καὶ εἰς πᾶν ὄριον Ἰσραὴλ, τοὺς ἀπαγγέλλοντας ὑπὲρ τῶν συντετελεσμένων, καὶ ἵνα πάντες ἐπεκχυθῶσι τοῖς πολεμίοις εἰς τὴν ἀναίρεσιν αὐτῶν. Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσαν οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ, πάντες ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐπέπεσον ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἔκοπτον αὐτοὺς ἕως Χωβά· ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ οἱ ἐξ Ἱερουσαλὴμ παρεγενήθησαν καὶ ἐκ πάσης τῆς ὀρεινῆς· ἀνήγγειλαν γὰρ αὐτοῖς τὰ γεγονότα τῇ παρεμβολῇ τῶν ἐχθρῶν αὐτῶν· καὶ οἱ ἐν Γαλαὰδ καὶ οἱ ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ ὑπερεκέρασαν αὐτοὺς πληγῇ μεγάλῃ, ἕως οὗ παρήλθον Δαμασκὸν, καὶ τὰ ὄρια αὐτῆς.
- 6 Οἱ δὲ λοιποὶ οἱ κατοικοῦντες Βετυλούα, ἐπέπεσαν τῇ παρεμβολῇ Ἀσσοῦρ, καὶ ἐπρονόμεισαν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐπλούτησαν
- 7 σφόδρα. Οἱ δὲ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἀναστρέψαντες ἀπὸ τῆς κοπῆς, ἐκυρίευσαν τῶν λοιπῶν, καὶ αἱ κῶμαι καὶ ἐπαύλεις ἐν τῇ ὀρεινῇ καὶ πεδινῇ ἐκράτησαν πολλῶν λαφύρων· ἦν γὰρ πλῆθος πολὺ σφόδρα.
- 8 Καὶ Ἰωακὶμ ὁ ἱερεὺς ὁ μέγας καὶ ἡ γερουσία τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ οἱ κατοικοῦντες ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἦλθον τοῦ θεάσασθαι τὰ ἀγαθὰ ἃ ἐποίησε Κύριος τῷ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ τοῦ ἰδεῖν τὴν
- 9 Ἰουδίθ, καὶ λαλῆσαι μετ' αὐτῆς εἰρήνῃ. Ὡς δὲ εἰσῆλθον πρὸς αὐτήν, εὐλόγησαν αὐτήν πάντες ὁμοθυμαδόν, καὶ εἶπαν πρὸς αὐτήν, σὺ ὕψωμα Ἰσραὴλ, σὺ γαυρίαμα μέγα τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ,

¹² But when the Assyrians saw them, they sent to their leaders, which came to their captains and tribunes, and to every one of their rulers.

¹³ So they came to Holofernes' tent, and said to him that had the charge of all his things, Waken now our lord: for the slaves have been bold to come down upon us to battle, that they may be utterly destroyed.

¹⁴ Then went in Bagoas, and knocked at the door of the tent; for he thought that he had slept with Judith. ¹⁵ But because none answered, he opened it, and went into the bedchamber, and found him cast upon the floor dead, and his head was taken from him. ¹⁶ Therefore he cried with a loud voice, with weeping, and sighing, and a mighty cry, and rent his garments.

¹⁷ After he went into the tent where Judith lodged: and when he found her not, he leaped out to the people, and cried, ¹⁸ These slaves have dealt treacherously; one woman of the Hebrews hath brought shame upon the house of king Nabuchodonosor: for, behold, Holofernes lieth upon the ground without a head. ¹⁹ When the captains of the Assyrians' army heard these words, they rent their coats, and their minds were wonderfully troubled, and there was a cry and a very great noise throughout the camp.

And when they that were in the tents heard, they were astonished at the thing that was done. ² And fear and trembling fell upon them, so that there was no man that durst abide in the sight of his neighbour, but rushing out all together, they fled into every way of the plain, and of the hill country. ³ They also that had camped in the mountains round about Bethulia fled away. Then the children of Israel, every one that was a warrior among them, rushed out upon them.

⁴ Then sent Ozias to Betomasthem, and to Chobai, and Chola, and to all the coasts of Israel, such as should tell the things that were done, and that all should rush forth upon their enemies to destroy them. ⁵ Now when the children of Israel heard it, they all fell upon them with one consent, and slew them unto Chobai: likewise also they that came from Jerusalem, and from all the hill country, (for men had told them what things were done in the camp of their enemies,) and they that were in Galaad, and in Galilee, chased them with a great slaughter, until they were past Damascus and the borders thereof.

⁶ And the residue, that dwelt at Bethulia, fell upon the camp of Assur, and spoiled them, and were greatly enriched. ⁷ And the children of Israel that returned from the slaughter had that which remained; and the villages and the cities, that were in the mountains and in the plain, gat many spoils: for the multitude was very great.

⁸ Then Joacim the high priest, and the ancients of the children of Israel that dwelt in Jerusalem, came to behold the good things that God had shewed to Israel, and to see Judith, and to salute her. ⁹ And when they came unto her, they blessed her with one accord, and said unto her, Thou art the exaltation of Israel, thou art

the great glory of Israel, thou art the great rejoicing of our nation: ¹⁰ thou hast done all these things by thine hand: thou hast done much good to Israel, and God is pleased therewith: blessed be thou of the Almighty Lord for evermore. And all the people said, So be it.

¹¹ And the people spoiled the camp the space of thirty days: and they gave unto Judith Holofernes his tent, and all his plate, and beds, and vessels, and all his stuff: and she took it, and laid it on her mule; and made ready her carts, and laid them thereon.

¹² Then all the women of Israel ran together to see her, and blessed her, and made a dance among them for her: and she took branches in her hand, and gave also to the women that were with her. ¹³ And they put a garland of olive upon her and her maid that was with her, and she went before all the people in the dance, leading all the women: and all the men of Israel followed in their armour with garlands, and with songs in their mouths.

¹ Then Judith began to sing this thanksgiving in all Israel, and all the people sang after her this song of praise.

² And Judith said,

Begin unto my God with timbrels, sing unto my Lord with cymbals: tune unto him a new psalm: exalt him, and call upon his name. ³ For God breaketh the battles: for among the camps in the midst of the people he hath delivered me out of the hands of them that persecuted me.

⁴ Assur came out of the mountains from the north, he came with ten thousands of his army, the multitude whereof stopped the torrents, and their horsemen have covered the hills. ⁵ He bragged that he would burn up my borders, and kill my young men with the sword, and dash the sucking children against the ground, and make mine infants as a prey, and my virgins as a spoil.

⁶ But the Almighty Lord hath disappointed them by the hand of a woman. ⁷ For the mighty one did not fall by the young men, neither did the sons of the Titans smite him, nor high giants set upon him: but Judith the daughter of Merari weakened him with the beauty of her countenance. ⁸ For she put off the garment of her widowhood for the exaltation of those that were oppressed in Israel, and anointed her face with ointment, and bound her hair in a tire, and took a linen garment to deceive him. ⁹ Her sandals ravished his eyes, her beauty took his mind prisoner, and the faction passed through his neck.

¹⁰ The Persians quaked at her boldness, and the Medes were daunted at her hardness. ¹¹ Then my afflicted shouted for joy, and my weak ones cried aloud; but they were astonished: these lifted up their voices, but they were overthrown. ¹² The sons of the damsels have pierced them through, and wounded them as fugitives' children: they perished by the battle of my Lord.

¹³ I will sing unto my God a new song: O Lord, thou art great and glorious, wonderful in strength, and invincible. ¹⁴ Let all creatures serve thee: for thou spakest,

σὺ καύχημα μέγα τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν. Ἐποίησας πάντα ταῦτα ¹⁰ ἐν χειρί σου, ἐποίησας τὰ ἀγαθὰ μετὰ Ἰσραὴλ· καὶ εὐδοκίησαι ἐπ' αὐτοῖς ὁ Θεός· εὐλογημένη γίνου παρὰ τῷ παντοκράτορι Κυρίῳ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα χρόνον· καὶ εἶπε πᾶς ὁ λαὸς, γένοιτο.

Καὶ ἐλαφύρευσεν πᾶς ὁ λαὸς τὴν παρεμβολὴν ἐφ' ἡμέρας ¹¹ τριάκοντα, καὶ ἔδωκεν τῇ Ἰουδῖθ τὴν σκηνὴν Ὀλοφέρνηου, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἀργυρώματα, καὶ τὰς κλῖνας, καὶ τὰ ὄλκια, καὶ πάντα τὰ σκευάσματα αὐτοῦ· καὶ λαβοῦσα αὕτη ἐπέθηκεν ἐπὶ τὴν ἡμίονον αὐτῆς, καὶ ἔξενε τὰς ἀμάξας αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐσώρευσεν αὐτὰ ἐπ' αὐτῶν.

Καὶ συνέδραμε πᾶσα γυνὴ Ἰσραὴλ τοῦ ἰδεῖν αὐτὴν, καὶ ¹² εὐλόγησαν αὐτήν· καὶ ἐποίησαν αὐτῇ χορὸν ἐξ αὐτῶν· καὶ ἔλαβε θύρσους ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν αὐτῆς, καὶ ἔδωκε ταῖς γυναιξὶ ταῖς μετ' αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐστεφανώσαντο τὴν ἐλαίαν αὕτη καὶ αἱ ¹³ μετ' αὐτῆς· καὶ προῆλθε παντὸς τοῦ λαοῦ ἐν χορείᾳ ἡγουμένη πασῶν τῶν γυναικῶν, καὶ ἠκολούθει πᾶς ἀνὴρ Ἰσραὴλ ἐνωπλισμένοι μετὰ στεφάνων καὶ ὕμνων ἐν τῷ στόματι αὐτῶν.

Καὶ ἐξῆρχεν Ἰουδῖθ τὴν ἐξομολόγησιν ταύτην ἐν παντὶ ¹ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ὑπεφώνει πᾶς ὁ λαὸς τὴν αἰνέσιν ταύτην.

Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰουδῖθ,

16

Ἐξάρχετε τῷ Θεῷ μου ἐν τυμπάνοις, ᾄσατε τῷ Κυρίῳ μου ² ἐν κυμβάλοις, ἐναρμόσασθε αὐτῷ ψαλμὸν καινόν, ὑψούτε καὶ ἐπικαλέσασθε τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ· ὅτι Θεὸς συντρίβων πολέμους ³ Κύριος, ὅτι εἰς παρεμβολὰς αὐτοῦ ἐν μέσῳ λαοῦ ἐξείλατό με ἐκ χειρὸς τῶν καταδιωκόντων με.

Ἦλθεν Ἀσσοὺρ ἐξ ὀρέων ἀπὸ Βορρᾶ, ἦλθεν ἐν μυριάσι ⁴ δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ, ὧν τὸ πλῆθος αὐτῶν ἐνέφραξε χειμάρρους, καὶ ἡ ἵππος αὐτῶν ἐκάλυψε βουνούς. Εἶπεν ἐμπρήσειν τὰ ὄριά ⁵ μου, καὶ τοὺς νεανίσκους μου ἀνελεῖν ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ, καὶ τὰ θηλάζοντά μου θήσειν εἰς ἔδαφος, καὶ τὰ νηπιά μου δώσειν εἰς προνομὴν, καὶ τὰς παρθένους μου σκυλεύσαι.

Κύριος παντοκράτωρ ἠθέτησεν αὐτοὺς ἐν χειρὶ θηλείας. ⁶ Οὐ γὰρ ὑπέπεσεν ὁ δυνατὸς αὐτῶν ὑπὸ νεανίσκων, οὐδὲ υἱοὶ ⁷ Τιτάνων ἐπάταξαν αὐτὸν, οὐδὲ ὑψηλοὶ γίγαντες ἐπέθεντο αὐτῷ, ἀλλὰ Ἰουδῖθ θυγάτηρ Μεραρὶ ἐν κάλλει προσώπου αὐτῆς παρέλυσεν αὐτόν. Ἐξεδύσατο γὰρ στολὴν χρηρεύσεως αὐτῆς ⁸ εἰς ὕψος τῶν πονούντων ἐν Ἰσραὴλ, ἠλείψατο τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτῆς ἐν μυρισμῷ, καὶ ἐδήσατο τὰς τρίχας αὐτῆς ἐν μίτρᾳ, καὶ ἔλαβε στολὴν λινὴν εἰς ἀπάτην αὐτοῦ. Τὸ σανδάλιον ⁹ αὐτῆς ἤρπασεν ὀφθαλμὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὸ κάλλος αὐτῆς ἤχημα-λώτισε ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ· διῆλθεν ὁ ἀκινάκης τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ.

Ἐφριζαν Πέρσαι τὴν τόλμαν αὐτῆς, καὶ Μῆδοι τὸ θράσος ¹⁰ αὐτῆς ἐρράχθησαν. Τότε ἠλάλαξαν οἱ ταπεινοὶ μου, καὶ ἐφο- ¹¹ βήθησαν οἱ ἀσθενούντες μου, καὶ ἐπτοήθησαν· ὕψωσαν τὴν φωνὴν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἀνετράπησαν. Υἱοὶ κορασίων κατεκέντη- ¹² σαν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ὡς παῖδας αὐτομολούντων ἐτίτρωσκον αὐτούς· ἀπώλοντο ἐκ παρατάξεως Κυρίου μου.

Ὑμνήσω τῷ Θεῷ μου ὕμνον καινόν· Κύριε, μέγας εἶ, καὶ ¹³ ἐνδοξος, θαυμαστός ἐν ἰσχύϊ, ἀνυπέρβλητος. Σοὶ δουλευσάτω ¹⁴ πᾶσα ἡ κτίσις σου, ὅτι εἶπας, καὶ ἐγενήθησαν· ἀπέστειλας τὸ

- πνεῦμά σου, καὶ ὠκοδόμησε· καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὃς ἀντιστήσεται τῇ
 15 φωνῇ σου. Ὅρη γὰρ ἐκ θεμελίων σὺν ὕδασι σαλευθήσεται,
 πέτραι δὲ ἀπὸ προσώπου σου ὡς κηρὸς τακήσονται, ἐπὶ δὲ
 16 τοῖς φοβουμένοις σε σὺ εὐλατεύεις αὐτοῖς. Ὅτι μικρὸν
 πᾶσα θυσία εἰς ὁσμὴν εὐωδίας, καὶ ἐλάχιστον πᾶν στέαρ
 εἰς ὀλοκαύτωμά σοι· ὁ δὲ φοβούμενος τὸν Κύριον, μέγας
 διαπαντός.
 17 Οὐαὶ ἔθνεσιν ἐπανισταμένοις τῷ γένει μου· Κύριος παν-
 τοκράτωρ ἐκδικήσκει αὐτοὺς ἐν ἡμέρᾳ κρίσεως, δοῦναι πῦρ καὶ
 σκώληκας εἰς σάρκας αὐτῶν, καὶ κλαύσονται ἐν αἰσθήσει ἕως
 αἰῶνος.
 18 Ὡς δὲ ἤλθοσαν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, προσεκύνησαν τῷ Θεῷ· καὶ
 ἡνίκα ἐκαθαρίσθη ὁ λαὸς, ἀνήνεγκαν τὰ ὀλοκαυτώματα αὐτῶν,
 καὶ τὰ ἐκουσία αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ δόματα.
 19 Καὶ ἀνέθηκεν Ἰουδὶθ πάντα τὰ σκεύη Ὀλοφέρνου ὅσα ἔδω-
 κεν ὁ λαὸς αὐτῇ, καὶ τὸ κωνωπεῖον ὃ ἔλαβεν αὐτὴ ἐκ τοῦ
 κοιτῶνος αὐτοῦ, εἰς ἀνάθημα τῷ Θεῷ ἔδωκε.
 20 Καὶ ἦν ὁ λαὸς εὐφραινόμενος ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ κατὰ πρόσ-
 ωπον τῶν ἀγίων ἐπὶ μῆνας τρεῖς, καὶ Ἰουδὶθ μετ' αὐτῶν κατέ-
 μεινε.
 21 Μετὰ δὲ τὰς ἡμέρας ταύτας ἀνέζευξεν ἕκαστος εἰς τὴν κλη-
 ρονομίαν αὐτοῦ· καὶ Ἰουδὶθ ἀπῆλθεν εἰς Βετυλούα, καὶ κατέ-
 μεινεν ἐπὶ τῆς ὑπάρξεως αὐτῆς· καὶ ἐγένετο κατὰ τὸν καιρὸν
 22 αὐτῆς ἔνδοξος ἐν πάσῃ τῇ γῇ. Καὶ πολλοὶ ἐπεθύμησαν αὐτὴν,
 καὶ οὐκ ἔγνω ἀνὴρ αὐτὴν πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας τῆς ζωῆς αὐτῆς,
 ἀφ' ἧς ἡμέρας ἀπέθανε Μανασσῆς ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς, καὶ προσετέθη
 πρὸς τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ.
 23 Καὶ ἦν προβαίνουσα μεγάλη σφόδρα· καὶ ἐγήρασεν ἐν τῷ
 οἴκῳ τοῦ ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς ἔτη ἑκατὸν πέντε, καὶ ἀφῆκε τὴν ἄβραν
 αὐτῆς ἐλευθέραν, καὶ ἀπέθανεν εἰς Βετυλούα, καὶ ἔθαψαν αὐτὴν
 24 ἐν τῷ σπηλαίῳ τοῦ ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς Μανασσῆ, καὶ ἐπένθησεν
 αὐτὴν οἶκος Ἰσραὴλ ἡμέρας ἑπτὰ· καὶ διεΐλε τὰ ὑπάρχοντα
 αὐτῆς πρὸ τοῦ ἀποθανεῖν αὐτὴν, πᾶσι τοῖς ἔγγιστα Μανασσῇ
 25 τοῦ ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς, καὶ τοῖς ἔγγιστα τοῦ γένους αὐτῆς. Καὶ
 οὐκ ἦν ἔτι ὁ ἐκφοβῶν τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἰσραὴλ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις Ἰουδὶθ,
 καὶ μετὰ τὸ ἀποθανεῖν αὐτὴν, ἡμέρας πολλάς.

and they were made: thou didst send forth thy spirit, and it created them, and there is none that can resist thy voice. ¹⁵ For the mountains shall be moved from their foundations with the waters, the rocks shall melt as wax at thy presence: yet thou art merciful to them that fear thee. ¹⁶ For all sacrifice is too little for a sweet savour unto thee, and all the fat is not sufficient for thy burnt offering: but he that feareth the Lord is great at all times.

¹⁷ Woe to the nations that rise up against my kindred! the Lord Almighty will take vengeance of them in the day of judgment, in putting fire and worms in their flesh; and they shall feel them, and weep for ever.

¹⁸ Now as soon as they entered into Jerusalem, they worshipped the Lord; and as soon as the people were purified, they offered their burnt offerings, and their free offerings, and their gifts.

¹⁹ Judith also dedicated all the stuff of Holofernes, which the people had given her, and gave the canopy which she had taken out of his bedchamber, for a gift unto God.

²⁰ So the people continued feasting in Jerusalem before the sanctuary for the space of three months, and Judith remained with them.

²¹ After this time every one returned to his own inheritance, and Judith went to Bethulia, and remained in her own possession, and was in her time honourable in all the country. ²² And many desired her, but none knew her all the days of her life, after that Manasses her husband was dead, and was gathered to his people.

²³ But she increased more and more in honour, and waxed old in her husband's house, being an hundred and five years old, and made her maid free; so she died in Bethulia: and they buried her in the cave of her husband Manasses. ²⁴ And the house of Israel lamented her seven days: and before she died, she did distribute her goods to all them that were nearest of kindred to Manasses her husband, and to them that were the nearest of her kindred. ²⁵ And there was none that made the children of Israel any more afraid in the days of Judith, nor a long time after her death.

ΣΟΦΙΑ ΣΑΛΩΜΩΝ.

LOVE righteousness, ye that be judges of the earth: think of the Lord with a good (heart,) and in simplicity of heart seek him. ² For he will be found of them that tempt him not; and sheweth himself unto such as do not distrust him. ³ For froward thoughts separate from God; and his power, when it is tried, reproveth the unwise.

⁴ For into a malicious soul wisdom shall not enter; nor dwell in the body that is subject unto sin. ⁵ For the holy spirit of discipline will flee deceit, and remove from thoughts that are without understanding, and will not abide when unrighteousness cometh in.

⁶ For wisdom is a loving spirit; and will not acquit a blasphemer of his words: for God is witness of his reins, and a true beholder of his heart, and a hearer of his tongue. ⁷ For the Spirit of the Lord filleth the world: and that which containeth all things hath knowledge of the voice.

⁸ Therefore he that speaketh unrighteous things cannot be hidden: neither shall vengeance, when it punisheth, pass by him. ⁹ For inquisition shall be made into the counsels of the ungodly: and the sound of his words shall come unto the Lord for the manifestation of his wicked deeds. ¹⁰ For the ear of jealousy heareth all things: and the noise of murmurings is not hid.

¹¹ Therefore beware of murmuring, which is unprofitable; and refrain your tongue from backbiting: for there is no word so secret, that shall go for nought: and the mouth that believeth slayeth the soul.

¹² Seek not death in the error of your life: and pull not upon yourselves destruction with the works of your hands. ¹³ For God made not death: neither hath he pleasure in the destruction of the living. ¹⁴ For he created all things, that they might have their being: and the generations of the world were healthful; and there is no poison of destruction in them, nor the kingdom of death upon the earth: ¹⁵ (for righteousness is immortal:) ¹⁶ but ungodly men with their works and words called it to them: for when they thought to have it their friend, they consumed to nought, and made a covenant with it, because they are worthy to take part with it.

For the ungodly said, reasoning with themselves, but not aright, Our life is short and tedious, and in the death of a man there is no remedy: neither was there any man known to have returned from the grave. ² For we are born at all adventure: and we shall be hereafter as though we had never been: for the breath in our nostrils is as smoke, and a little spark in the moving of our heart: ³ which being extinguished, our body shall be turned to ashes, and our spirit shall vanish as the soft air, ⁴ and our name shall be forgotten in time, and no man shall have our works in remembrance, and our life shall pass away as the trace of

ἈΓΑΠΗΣΑΤΕ δικαιοσύνην οἱ κρίνοντες τὴν γῆν, φρονήσατε περὶ τοῦ Κυρίου ἐν ἀγαθότητι, καὶ ἐν ἀπλότῃ καρδίᾳ ζητήσατε αὐτόν. Ὅτι εὐρίσκεται τοῖς μὴ ² πειράζουσιν αὐτόν, ἐμφανίζεται δὲ τοῖς μὴ ἀπιστοῦσιν αὐτῷ. Σκολιοὶ γὰρ λογισμοὶ χωρίζουσιν ἀπὸ Θεοῦ, δοκι- ³ μαζομένη τε ἡ δύναμις ἐλέγχει τοὺς ἄφρονας.

Ὅτι εἰς κακότεχνον ψυχὴν οὐκ εἰσελεύσεται σοφία, οὐδὲ ⁴ κατοικήσει ἐν σώματι κατὰ χρεω ἁμαρτίας. Ἅγιον γὰρ ⁵ πνεῦμα παιδείας φεύξεται δόλον, καὶ ἀπαναστήσεται ἀπὸ λογισμῶν ἀσυνέτων, καὶ ἐλεγχθήσεται ἐπελθούσης ἀδικίας.

Φιλάνθρωπον γὰρ πνεῦμα σοφία, καὶ οὐκ ἀθώωσει ⁶ βλάσφημον ἀπὸ χειλέων αὐτοῦ, ὅτι τῶν νεφρῶν αὐτοῦ μάρτυς ὁ Θεὸς, καὶ τῆς καρδίας αὐτοῦ ἐπίσκοπος ἀληθής, καὶ τῆς γλώσσης ἀκουστής· ὅτι πνεῦμα Κυρίου πεπλή- ⁷ ρωκε τὴν οἰκουμένην, καὶ τὸ συνέχον τὰ πάντα γινώσιν ἔχει φωνῆς.

Διὰ τοῦτο φθεγγόμενος ἄδικα οὐδεὶς μὴ λάθῃ, οὐδὲ μὴν ⁸ παροδύσῃ αὐτὸν ἐλέγχουσα ἡ δίκη. Ἐν γὰρ διαβουλίᾳ ⁹ ἀσεβοῦς ἐξέτασις ἔσται, λόγων δὲ αὐτοῦ ἀκοὴ πρὸς Κύριον ἥξει εἰς ἐλεγχον ἀνομημάτων αὐτοῦ. Ὅτι οὗς ζηλώσεως ¹⁰ ἀκροῦται τὰ πάντα, καὶ θροῦς γογγυσμῶν οὐκ ἀποκρύπτεται.

Φυλάξασθε τοίνυν γογγυσμὸν ἀνωφελῆ, καὶ ἀπὸ κατα- ¹¹ λαλιᾶς φείσασθε γλώσσης· ὅτι φθέγμα λαθραῖον κενὸν οὐ πορεύεται, στόμα δὲ καταψευδόμενον ἀναιρεῖ ψυχὴν.

Μὴ ζηλοῦτε θάνατον ἐν πλάνῃ ζωῆς ὑμῶν, μηδὲ ἐπισπά- ¹² σθε ὀλεθρον ἔργοις χειρῶν ὑμῶν· ὅτι ὁ Θεὸς θάνατον οὐκ ¹³ ἐποίησεν, οὐδὲ τέρπεται ἐπ' ἀπωλείᾳ ζώντων. Ἐκτίσεν γὰρ ¹⁴ εἰς τὸ εἶναι τὰ πάντα, καὶ σωτήριοι αἱ γενέσεις τοῦ κόσμου, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν αὐταῖς φάρμακον ὀλέθρου, οὔτε ἄδου ¹⁵ βασιλείον ἐπὶ γῆς. Δικαιοσύνη γὰρ ἀθάνατός ἐστιν· ¹⁶ ἀσεβεῖς δὲ ταῖς χερσὶ καὶ τοῖς λόγοις προσεκάλεσαντο ¹⁶ αὐτόν, φίλον ἡγησάμενοι αὐτόν ἐτάκησαν, καὶ συνθήκην ἔθεντο πρὸς αὐτόν, ὅτι ἅξιοι εἰσι τῆς ἐκείνου μερίδος εἶναι.

Εἶπον γὰρ ἑαυτοῖς λογισάμενοι οὐκ ὀρθῶς, ὀλίγος ἐστὶ ² καὶ λυπηρὸς ὁ βίος ἡμῶν, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἴασις ἐν τελευτῇ ἀνθρώπου, καὶ οὐκ ἐγνώσθη ὁ ἀναλύσας ἐξ ἄδου. Ὅτι ² αὐτοσχεδίως ἐγεννήθημεν, καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο ἐσόμεθα ὡς οὐχ ὑπάρξαντες, ὅτι καπνὸς ἡ πγοὴ ἐν ῥύσιν ἡμῶν, καὶ ὁ λόγος ³ σπινθήρ ἐν κινήσει καρδίας ἡμῶν, οὐ σβεσθέντος τέφρα ³ ἀποβήσεται τὸ σῶμα, καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα διαχυθήσεται ὡς ⁴ χαῦνος ἀήρ. Καὶ τὸ ὄνομα ἡμῶν ἐπιλησθήσεται ἐν ⁴ χρόνῳ, καὶ οὐθεὶς μνημονεύσει τῶν ἔργων ἡμῶν· καὶ

παρέλεύσεται ὁ βίος ἡμῶν ὡς ἵχνη νεφέλης, καὶ ὡς ὀμίχλη διασκεδασθήσεται διωχθεῖσα ὑπὸ ἀκτίνων ἡλίου, καὶ ὑπὸ θερμότητος αὐτοῦ βαρυνθεῖσα.

5 Σκιᾶς γὰρ πάροδος ὁ βίος ἡμῶν, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀναποδισμὸς τῆς τελευτῆς ἡμῶν, ὅτι κατεσφραγίσθη, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἀναστρέφει.

6 Δεῦτε οὖν καὶ ἀπολαύσωμεν τῶν ὄντων ἀγαθῶν, καὶ

7 χρῆσώμεθα τῇ κτίσει ὡς νεότητι σπουδαίως. Οἶνου πολυτελοῦς καὶ μύρων πλησθῶμεν, καὶ μὴ παροδυσάτω

8 ἡμᾶς ἄνθος ἀέρος. Στεφώμεθα ῥόδων κάλυξι πρὶν ἢ

9 μαρανθῆναι. Μηδεὶς ἡμῶν ἄμοιρος ἔστω τῆς ἡμετέρας ἀγερωχίας, πανταχῇ καταλίπωμεν σύμβολα τῆς εὐφροσύνης, ὅτι αὕτη ἡ μερὶς ἡμῶν καὶ ὁ κλήρος οὗτος.

10 Καταδυναστεύσωμεν πένητα δίκαιον, μὴ φεισώμεθα χήρας, μηδὲ πρεσβύτου ἐντραπῶμεν πολιᾶς πολυχρονίους.

11 Ἔστω δὲ ἡμῶν ἡ ἰσχὺς νόμος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, τὸ γὰρ ἀσθενὲς ἄχρηστον ἐλέγχεται.

12 Ἐνδρεύσωμεν δὲ τὸν δίκαιον, ὅτι δύσχρηστος ἡμῖν ἐστὶ καὶ ἐναντιοῦται τοῖς ἔργοις ἡμῶν, καὶ ὀνειδίζει ἡμῖν ἁμαρτήματα νόμου, καὶ ἐπιφημίζει ἡμῖν ἁμαρτήματα παιδείας

13 ἡμῶν. Ἐπαγγέλλεται γινώσιν ἔχειν Θεοῦ, καὶ παῖδα

14 Κυρίου ἑαυτὸν ὀνομάζει. Ἐγένετο ἡμῖν εἰς ἔλεγχον

15 ἐννοιῶν ἡμῶν. Βαρὺς ἐστὶν ἡμῖν καὶ βλεπόμενος, ὅτι ἀνόμοιος τοῖς ἄλλοις ὁ βίος αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐξηλλαγμένοι αἱ

16 τρίβοι αὐτοῦ. Εἰς κίβδηλον ἐλογίσθημεν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀπέχεται τῶν ὁδῶν ἡμῶν ὡς ἀπὸ ἀκαθαρσιῶν· μακαρίζει ἔσχατα δικαίων, καὶ ἀλαζονεύεται πατέρα Θεόν.

17 Ἰδωμεν εἰ οἱ λόγοι αὐτοῦ ἀληθεῖς, καὶ πειράσωμεν τὰ

18 ἐν ἐκβάσει αὐτοῦ. Εἰ γάρ ἐστιν ὁ δίκαιος υἱὸς Θεοῦ, ἀντιλήψεται αὐτοῦ, καὶ ῥύσεται αὐτὸν ἐκ χειρὸς ἀνθεστη-

19 κόνων. Ὑβρεῖ καὶ βασάνῳ ἐτάσωμεν αὐτὸν, ἵνα γινώμεν τὴν ἐπιείκειαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ δοκιμάσωμεν τὴν ἀνέξικακίαν

20 αὐτοῦ. Θανάτῳ ἀσχήμονι καταδικάσωμεν αὐτόν· ἔσται γὰρ αὐτοῦ ἐπισκοπὴ ἐκ λόγων αὐτοῦ.

21 Ταῦτα ἐλογίσαντο, καὶ ἐπλανήθησαν· ἀπετύφλωσε γὰρ

22 αὐτοὺς ἡ κακία αὐτῶν, καὶ οὐκ ἔγνωσαν μυστήρια Θεοῦ, οὐδὲ μισθὸν ἠλπίσαν ὁσιότητος, οὐδὲ ἔκριναν γέρας ψυχῶν ἀμώμων.

23 Ὅτι ὁ Θεὸς ἔκτισε τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἐπ' ἀφθαρσία, καὶ

24 εἰκόνα τῆς ἰδίας ιδιότητος ἐποίησεν αὐτόν. Φθόνῳ δὲ διαβόλου θάνατος εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον· πειράζουσι δὲ αὐτὸν οἱ τῆς ἐκείνου μερίδος ὄντες.

3 Δίκαιων δὲ ψυχαὶ ἐν χειρὶ Θεοῦ, καὶ οὐ μὴ ἄψηται

2 αὐτῶν βάσανος. Ἐδοξαν ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ἀφρόνων τεθνή-

3 ναι, καὶ ἐλογίσθη κάκωσις ἡ ἐξόδος αὐτῶν, καὶ ἡ ἀφ' ἡμῶν

4 πορεία σύντρημμα· οἱ δὲ εἰσιν ἐν εἰρήνῃ. Καὶ γὰρ ἐν ὧσιν ἀνθρώπων ἐὰν κολασθῶσιν, ἡ ἐλπίς αὐτῶν ἀθανασίας πλήρης.

5 Καὶ ὀλίγα παιδευθέντες μεγάλα εὐεργετηθήσονται, ὅτι ὁ Θεὸς ἐπείρασεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ εὗρεν αὐτοὺς ἀξίους ἑαυτοῦ.

6 Ὡς χρυσὸν ἐν χωνευτηρίῳ ἐδοκίμασεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ὡς ὀλοκάρπωμα θυσίας προσεδέξατο αὐτούς.

a cloud, and shall be dispersed as a mist, that is driven away with the beams of the sun, and overcome with the heat thereof.

⁵ For our time is a very shadow that passeth away; and after our end there is no returning: for it is fast sealed, so that no man cometh again.

⁶ Come on therefore, let us enjoy the good things that are present: and let us speedily use the creatures like as in youth. ⁷ Let us fill ourselves with costly wine and ointments: and let no flower of the spring pass by us. ⁸ Let us crown ourselves with rosebuds, before they be withered: ⁹ let none of us go without his part of our voluptuousness: let us leave tokens of our joyfulness in every place: for this is our portion, and our lot is this.

¹⁰ Let us oppress the poor righteous man, let us not spare the widow, nor reverence the ancient grey hairs of the aged. ¹¹ Let our strength be the law of justice: for that which is feeble is found to be nothing worth.

¹² Therefore let us lie in wait for the righteous; because he is not for our turn, and he is clean contrary to our doings: he upbraideth us with our offending the law, and objecteth to our infamy the transgressings of our education. ¹³ He professeth to have the knowledge of God: and he calleth himself the child of the Lord. ¹⁴ He was made to reprove our thoughts. ¹⁵ He is grievous unto us even to behold: for his life is not like other men's, his ways are of another fashion. ¹⁶ We are esteemed of him as counterfeits: he abstaineth from our ways as from filthiness: he pronounceth the end of the just to be blessed, and maketh his boast that God is his father.

¹⁷ Let us see if his words be true: and let us prove what shall happen in the end of him. ¹⁸ For if the just man be the son of God, he will help him, and deliver him from the hand of his enemies. ¹⁹ Let us examine him with despitefulness and torture, that we may know his meekness, and prove his patience. ²⁰ Let us condemn him with a shameful death: for by his own saying he shall be respected.

²¹ Such things they did imagine, and were deceived: for their own wickedness hath blinded them. ²² As for the mysteries of God, they knew them not: neither hoped they for the wages of righteousness, nor discerned a reward for blameless souls.

²³ For God created man to be immortal, and made him to be an image of his own eternity. ²⁴ Nevertheless through envy of the devil came death into the world: and they that are of his side do find it.

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. ² In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: and their departure is taken for misery, ³ and their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace. ⁴ For though they be punished in the sight of men, yet is their hope full of immortality.

⁵ And having been a little chastised, they shall be greatly rewarded: for God proved them, and found them worthy for himself. ⁶ As gold in the furnace hath he tried them, and received them as a burnt offering.

7 And in the time of their visitation they shall shine, and run to and fro like sparks among the stubble. 8 They shall judge the nations, and have dominion over the people, and their Lord shall reign for ever. 9 They that put their trust in him shall understand the truth: and such as be faithful in love shall abide with him: for grace and mercy is to his saints, and he hath care for his elect. 10 But the ungodly shall be punished according to their own imaginations, which have neglected the righteous, and forsaken the Lord.

11 For whoso despiseth wisdom and nurture, he is miserable, and their hope is vain, their labours unfruitful, and their works unprofitable: 12 their wives are foolish, and their children wicked:

13 Their offspring is cursed. Wherefore blessed is the barren that is undefiled, which hath not known the sinful bed: she shall have fruit in the visitation of souls.

14 And blessed is the eunuch, which with his hands hath wrought no iniquity, nor imagined wicked things against God: for unto him shall be given the special gift of faith, and an inheritance in the temple of the Lord more acceptable to his mind. 15 For glorious is the fruit of good labours: and the root of wisdom shall never fall away.

16 As for the children of adulterers, they shall not come to their perfection, and the seed of an unrighteous bed shall be rooted out. 17 For though they live long, yet shall they be nothing regarded: and their last age shall be without honour. 18 Or, if they die quickly, they have no hope, neither comfort in the day of trial. 19 For horrible is the end of the unrighteous generation.

Better it is to have no children, and to have virtue: for the memorial thereof is immortal: because it is known with God, and with men. 2 When it is present, men take example at it; and when it is gone, they desire it: it weareth a crown, and triumpheth for ever, having gotten the victory, striving for undefiled rewards.

3 But the multiplying brood of the ungodly shall not thrive, nor take deep rooting from bastard slips, nor lay any fast foundation. 4 For though they flourish in branches for a time; yet standing not fast, they shall be shaken with the wind, and through the force of winds they shall be rooted out. 5 The imperfect branches shall be broken off, their fruit unprofitable, not ripe to eat, yea, meet for nothing. 6 For children begotten of unlawful beds are witnesses of wickedness against their parents in their trial. 7 But though the righteous be prevented with death, yet shall he be in rest.

8 For honourable age is not that which standeth in length of time, nor that is measured by number of years. 9 But wisdom is the grey hair unto men, and an unspotted life is old age. 10 He pleased God, and was beloved of him: so that living among sinners he was translated. 11 Yea, speedily was he taken away, lest that wickedness should alter his understanding, or deceit beguile his soul. 12 For the bewitching of naughtiness doth obscure things that are honest; and the wandering of concupiscence doth undermine the simple mind. 13 He, being made perfect in a short time, fulfilled a long time: 14 for his soul pleased the Lord: therefore hastened he to take him away from among the wicked. 15 This the people saw, and understood not, neither laid they up this in their minds, That his

Καὶ ἐν καιρῷ ἐπισκοπῆς αὐτῶν ἀναλάμψουσι, καὶ ὡς 7 σπινθήρες ἐν καλάμῃ διαδραμοῦνται. Κρινούσιν ἔθνη καὶ 8 κρατήσουσι λαῶν, καὶ βασιλεύσει αὐτῶν Κύριος εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Οἱ πεποιθότες ἐπ' αὐτῷ συνήσουσιν ἀλήθειαν, 9 καὶ οἱ πιστοὶ ἐν ἀγάπῃ προσμενοῦσιν αὐτῷ, ὅτι χάρις καὶ ἔλεος τοῖς ἐκλεκτοῖς αὐτοῦ. Οἱ δὲ ἀσεβεῖς καθὰ 10 ἐλογίσαντο ἔξουσιν ἐπιτιμίαν, οἱ ἀμελήσαντες τοῦ δικαίου καὶ τοῦ Κυρίου ἀποστάντες.

Σοφίαν γὰρ καὶ παιδείαν ὁ ἐξουθενῶν ταλαίπωρος, καὶ 11 κενὴ ἡ ἐλπίς αὐτῶν, καὶ οἱ κόποι ἀνόνητοι, καὶ ἄχρηστα τὰ ἔργα αὐτῶν. Αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν ἄφρονες, καὶ πονηρὰ 12 τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν.

Ἐπικατάρατος ἡ γένεσις αὐτῶν, ὅτι μακαρία στείρα ἡ 13 ἀμιάντος, ἥτις οὐκ ἔγνω κοίτην ἐν παραπτώματι, ἔξει καρπὸν ἐν ἐπισκοπῇ ψυχῶν.

Καὶ εὐνοῦχος ὁ μὴ ἐργασάμενος ἐν χειρὶ ἀνόμημα, 14 μὴδὲ ἐνθυμηθεὶς κατὰ τοῦ Κυρίου πονηρά· δοθήσεται γὰρ αὐτῷ τῆς πίστεως χάρις ἐκλεκτῇ, καὶ κλῆρος ἐν ναῷ Κυρίου θυμηρέστερος. Ἀγαθὸν γὰρ πόνων καρπὸς εὖ- 15 κλεῖς, καὶ ἀδιάπτωτος ἡ ρίζα τῆς φρονήσεως.

Τέκνα δὲ μοιχῶν ἀτέλεστα ἔσται, καὶ ἐκ παρανόμου 16 κοίτης σπέρμα ἀφανισθήσεται. Ἐάν τε γὰρ μακρόβιοι 17 γένωνται, εἰς οὐθέν λογισθήσονται, καὶ ἄτιμον ἐπ' ἐσχάτον τὸ γῆρας αὐτῶν. Ἐάν τε ὀξέως τελευτήσωσιν, οὐχ 18 ἔξουσιν ἐλπίδα, οὐδὲ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ διαγνώσεως παραμύθιον· γενεὰς γὰρ ἀδίκου χαλεπὰ τὰ τέλη. 19

Κρεῖσσον ἀτεκνία μετὰ ἀρετῆς, ἀθανασία γὰρ ἔστιν ἐν 4 μνήμῃ αὐτῆς, ὅτι καὶ παρὰ Θεῷ γινώσκεται καὶ παρὰ ἀνθρώποις· παροῦσάν τε μιμοῦνται αὐτὴν, καὶ ποθοῦσιν 2 ἀπελθοῦσαν καὶ ἐν τῷ αἰῶνι στεφανηφοροῦσα πομπεῖν, τὸν τῶν ἀμιάντων ἄθλων ἀγῶνα νικήσασα.

Πολύγονον δὲ ἀσεβῶν πλήθος οὐ χρησιμεύσει, καὶ ἐκ 3 νόθων μοσχευμάτων οὐ δώσει ρίζαν εἰς βάθος, οὐδὲ ἀσφαλῆ βάσιν ἐδράσει. Καὶ γὰρ ἐν κλάδοις πρὸς καιρὸν 4 ἀναθάλλῃ, ἐπισφαλῶς βεβηκότα ὑπὸ ἀνέμου σαλευθήσεται, καὶ ὑπὸ βίας ἀνέμων ἐκριζωθήσεται. Περικλασθήσονται 5 κλώνες ἀτέλεστοι, καὶ ὁ καρπὸς αὐτῶν ἄχρηστος, ἄωρος εἰς βρώσιν, καὶ εἰς οὐθέν ἐπιτήδειος. Ἐκ γὰρ ἀνόμων 6 ὕπνων τέκνα γεννώμενα μάρτυρές εἰσι πονηρίας κατὰ γονέων ἐν ἐξετασμῷ αὐτῶν. Δίκαιος δὲ ἐὰν φθάσῃ τελευ- 7 τῆσαι, ἐν ἀναπαύσει ἔσται.

Γῆρας γὰρ τίμιον οὐ τὸ πολυχρόνιον, οὐδὲ ἀριθμῷ ἐτῶν 8 μεμέτρηται. Πολιὰ δὲ ἔστιν φρόνησις ἀνθρώποις, καὶ 9 ἡλικία γῆρως βίος ἀκηλίδωτος. Εὐάρεστος τῷ Θεῷ γενό- 10 μενος ἡγαπήθη, καὶ ζῶν μεταξὺ ἀμαρτωλῶν μετετέθη. Ἡρπάγη μὴ κακία ἀλλάξῃ σύνεσιν αὐτοῦ, ἡ δόλος 11 ἀπατήσῃ ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ. Βασκανία γὰρ φανλότητος ἄμαν- 12 ροὶ τὰ καλὰ, καὶ ῥεμβασμὸς ἐπιθυμίας μεταλλεῦει νοῦν ἄκακον. Τελειωθείς ἐν ὀλίγῳ ἐπλήρωσε χρόνους μακροὺς. 13 Ἀρεστὴ γὰρ ἦν Κυρίῳ ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτοῦ· διὰ τοῦτο ἔσπευ- 14 σεν ἐκ μέσου πονηρίας. Οἱ δὲ λαοὶ ἰδόντες καὶ μὴ 15 νοήσαντες, μὴδὲ θέντες ἐπὶ διανοίᾳ τὸ τοιοῦτο, ὅτι

χάρις καὶ ἔλεος ἐν τοῖς ἐκλεκτοῖς αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπισκοπὴ ἐν τοῖς ὁσίοις αὐτοῦ.

- 16 Κατακρινεῖ δὲ δίκαιος καμὼν τοὺς ζῶντας ἀσεβεῖς, καὶ νεότης τελεσθεῖσα ταχέως πολυετὲς γῆρας ἀδίκου.
 17 Ὁφονται γὰρ τελευτὴν σοφοῦ, καὶ οὐ νοήσουσι τί ἐβουλεύσατο περὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἰς τί ἡσφαλίσατο αὐτὸν ὁ Κύριος.
 18 Ὁφονται καὶ ἐξουθενήσουσιν, αὐτοὺς δὲ ὁ Κύριος ἐκγελάσεται· καὶ ἔσονται μετὰ τοῦτο εἰς πτώμα ἄτιμον, καὶ εἰς ὕβριν ἐν νεκροῖς δι' αἰῶνος.
 19 Ὅτι ῥήξει αὐτοὺς ἀφώνους· πρηνεῖς, καὶ σαλεύσει αὐτοὺς ἐκ θεμελίων, καὶ ἕως ἐσχάτου χερσωθήσονται, καὶ ἔσονται ἐν ὁδύνῃ, καὶ ἡ μνήμη αὐτῶν ἀπολείται.
 20 Ἐλεύσονται ἐν συλλογισμῷ ἁμαρτημάτων αὐτῶν δειλοὶ, καὶ ἐλέγξει αὐτοὺς ἐξεναντίας τὰ ἀνομήματα αὐτῶν.

5 Τότε στήσεται ἐν παρρησίᾳ πολλῇ ὁ δίκαιος κατὰ πρόσωπον τῶν θλιψάντων αὐτὸν, καὶ τῶν ἀθετούντων τοὺς πόρους αὐτοῦ. Ἰδόντες ταραχθήσονται φόβῳ δεινῷ καὶ ἐκστήσονται ἐπὶ τῷ παραδόξῳ τῆς σωτηρίας.
 3 Ἐροῦσιν ἑαυτοῖς μετανοοῦντες, καὶ διὰ στενοχωρίαν πνεύματος στενάζοντες,

Οὗτος ἦν ὃν ἔσχομέν ποτε εἰς γέλωτα καὶ εἰς παραβολὴν ὀνειδισμοῦ. Οἱ ἄφρονες τὸν βίον αὐτοῦ ἐλογισάμεθα μανίαν, καὶ τὴν τελευτὴν αὐτοῦ ἄτιμον.
 5 Πῶς κατελογίσθη ἐν υἱοῖς Θεοῦ, καὶ ἐν ἁγίοις ὁ κλῆρος αὐτοῦ ἐστίν; Ἄρα ἐπλανήθημεν ἀπὸ ὁδοῦ ἀληθείας, καὶ τὸ τῆς δικαιοσύνης φῶς οὐκ ἔλαμψεν ἡμῖν, καὶ ὁ ἥλιος οὐκ ἀνέτειλεν ἡμῖν. Ἀνομίας ἐνεπλήσθημεν τρίβοις καὶ ἀπωλείας, καὶ διωδεύσαμεν ἐρήμους ἀβάτους, τὴν δὲ ὁδὸν Κυρίου οὐκ ἔγνωμεν.

- 8 Τί ὠφέλησεν ἡμᾶς ἡ ὑπερηφανία; καὶ τί πλοῦτος ἡμεῖς μετὰ ἀλαζονείας συμβέβληται ἡμῖν; Παρήλθεν ἐκεῖνα πάντα ὡς σκιά, καὶ ὡς ἀγγελία παρατρέχουσα· ὡς ναὺς δειρχομένη κυμαινόμενον ὕδωρ, ἥς διαβάσης οὐκ ἔστιν ἵχνος εὑρεῖν, οὐδὲ ἀτραπὸν τρόπιος αὐτῆς ἐν κύμασιν.
 11 ἢ ὡς ὀρνέου διππτάντος ἀέρα, οὐθέν εὐρίσκεται τεκμήριον πορείας, πληγὴ δὲ ταρσῶν μαστιζόμενον πνεῦμα κούφον καὶ σχιζόμενον βία ῥοίζου, κινουμένων πτερύγων διωδευθῆ, καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο οὐχ εὑρέθη σημεῖον ἐπιβάσεως
 12 ἐν αὐτῷ· ἢ ὡς βέλους βληθέντος ἐπὶ σκοπὸν, τμηθεὶς ὁ ἀὴρ εὐθέως εἰς ἑαυτὸν ἀνελύθη, ὡς ἀγνοῆσαι τὴν διόδον αὐτοῦ· οὕτως καὶ ἡμεῖς γεννηθέντες ἐξελίπομεν· καὶ ἀρετῆς μὲν σημεῖον οὐδὲν ἔσχομεν δεῖξαι, ἐν δὲ τῇ κακίᾳ ἡμῶν κατεδαπανήθημεν.

- 14 Ὅτι ἐλπίς ἀσεβοῦς ὡς φερόμενος χοῦς ὑπὸ ἀνέμου, καὶ ὡς πάχνη ὑπὸ λαίλαπος διωχθεῖσα λεπτή, καὶ ὡς καπνὸς ὑπὸ ἀνέμου διεχύθη, καὶ ὡς μνεῖα καταλύτου μονοήμερου παρώδευσε.

- 15 Δίκαιοι δὲ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ζῶσι, καὶ ἐν Κυρίῳ ὁ μισθὸς αὐτῶν, καὶ ἡ φροντίς αὐτῶν παρὰ ὑψίστῳ. Διὰ τοῦτο λήφονται τὸ βασίλειον τῆς εὐπρεπείας, καὶ τὸ διάδημα τοῦ κάλλους ἐκ χειρὸς Κυρίου, ὅτι τῇ δεξιᾷ σκεπάσει αὐτοὺς, καὶ τῷ βραχίονι ὑπερασπιεῖ αὐτῶν.

grace and mercy is with his saints, and that he hath respect unto his chosen.

¹⁶ Thus the righteous that is dead shall condemn the ungodly which are living; and youth that is soon perfected the many years and old age of the unrighteous. ¹⁷ For they shall see the end of the wise, and shall not understand what God in his counsel hath decreed of him, and to what end the Lord hath set him in safety. ¹⁸ They shall see him, and despise him; but God shall laugh them to scorn; and they shall hereafter be a vile carcase, and a reproach among the dead for evermore. ¹⁹ For he shall rend them, and cast them down headlong, that they shall be speechless; and he shall shake them from the foundation; and they shall be utterly laid waste, and be in sorrow; and their memorial shall perish. ²⁰ And when they cast up the account of their sins, they shall come with fear; and their own iniquities shall convince them to their face.

Then shall the righteous man stand in great boldness before the face of such as have afflicted him, and made no account of his labours. ² When they see it, they shall be troubled with terrible fear, and shall be amazed at the strangeness of his salvation, so far beyond all that they looked for. ³ And they repenting and groaning for anguish of spirit shall say within themselves,

This was he, whom we had sometimes in derision, and a proverb of reproach: ⁴ we fools accounted his life madness, and his end to be without honour: ⁵ how is he numbered among the children of God, and his lot is among the saints! ⁶ Therefore have we erred from the way of truth, and the light of righteousness hath not shined unto us, and the sun of righteousness rose not upon us. ⁷ We wearied ourselves in the way of wickedness and destruction: yea, we have gone through deserts, where there lay no way: but as for the way of the Lord, we have not known it.

⁸ What hath pride profited us? or what good hath riches with our vaunting brought us? ⁹ All those things are passed away like a shadow, and as a post that hasteth by; ¹⁰ and as a ship that passeth over the waves of the water, which when it is gone by, the trace thereof cannot be found, neither the pathway of the keel in the waves: ¹¹ or as when a bird hath flown through the air, there is no token of her way to be found, but the light air being beaten with the stroke of her wings, and parted with the violent noise and motion of them, is passed through, and therein afterwards no sign where she went is to be found; ¹² or like as when an arrow is shot at a mark, it parteth the air, which immediately cometh together again, so that a man cannot know where it went through: ¹³ even so we in like manner, as soon as we were born, began to draw to our end, and had no sign of virtue to shew; but were consumed in our own wickedness.

¹⁴ For the hope of the ungodly is like dust that is blown away with the wind; like a thin froth that is driven away with the storm; like as the smoke which is dispersed here and there with a tempest, and passeth away as the remembrance of a guest that tarrieth but a day.

¹⁵ But the righteous live for evermore; their reward also is with the Lord, and the care of them is with the most High. ¹⁶ Therefore shall they receive a glorious kingdom, and a beautiful crown from the Lord's hand: for with his right hand shall he cover them, and with his arm shall he protect them.

¹⁷ He shall take to him his jealousy for complete armour, and make the creature his weapon for the revenge of *his* enemies. ¹⁸ He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of an helmet. ¹⁹ He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. ²⁰ His severe wrath shall he sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with him against the unwise.

²¹ Then shall the right aiming thunderbolts go abroad; and from the clouds, as from a well drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. ²² And hailstones full of wrath shall be cast as out of a stone bow, and the water of the sea shall rage against them, and the floods shall cruelly drown them.

²³ Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away: thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty.

Hear therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. ² Give ear, ye that rule the people, and glory in the multitude of nations. ³ For power is given you of the Lord, and sovereignty from the Highest, who shall try your works, and search out your counsels. ⁴ Because, being ministers of his kingdom, ye have not judged aright, nor kept the law, nor walked after the counsel of God; ⁵ horribly and speedily shall he come upon you: for a sharp judgment shall be to them that be in high places. ⁶ For mercy will soon pardon the meanest: but mighty men shall be mightily tormented. ⁷ For he which is Lord over all shall fear no man's person, neither shall he stand in awe of any man's greatness: for he hath made the small and great, and careth for all alike. ⁸ But a sore trial shall come upon the mighty.

⁹ Unto you therefore, O kings, do I speak, that ye may learn wisdom, and not fall away. ¹⁰ For they that keep holiness holily shall be judged holy: and they that have learned such things shall find what to answer. ¹¹ Wherefore set your affection upon my words; desire them, and ye shall be instructed.

¹² Wisdom is glorious, and never fadeth away: yea, she is easily seen of them that love her, and found of such as seek her.

¹³ She preventeth them that desire her, in making herself first known unto them. ¹⁴ Whoso seeketh her early shall have no great travail: for he shall find her sitting at his doors. ¹⁵ To think therefore upon her is the perfection of wisdom; and whoso watcheth for her shall quickly be without care. ¹⁶ For she goeth about seeking such as are worthy of her, sheweth herself favourably unto them in the ways, and meeteth them in every thought. ¹⁷ For the very true beginning of her is the desire of discipline; and the care of discipline is love; ¹⁸ and love is the keeping of her laws; and the giving heed unto her laws is the assurance of incorruption; ¹⁹ and incorruption maketh us near unto God: ²⁰ therefore the desire of wisdom bringeth to a kingdom.

²¹ If your delight be then in thrones and sceptres, O ye kings of the people, honour wisdom, that ye may reign for evermore. ²² As for wisdom, what she is, and how she came up, I will tell you, and will not hide mysteries from you: but will seek her out from the beginning of her nativity, and bring the knowledge of her into light, and

Λήψεται πανοπλίαν τὸν ζῆλον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὀπλοποιήσει 17
τὴν κτίσιν εἰς ἄμυναν ἐχθρῶν. Ἐνδύσεται θώρακα 18
δικαιοσύνην, καὶ περιθήσεται κόρυθα κρίσιν ἀνυπόκριτον.
Λήψεται ἀσπίδα ἀκαταμάχητον ὁσιότητα, ὄξυνει δὲ 19, 20
ἀπότομον ὀργὴν εἰς ῥομφαίαν, συνεκπολεμήσει δὲ αὐτῷ
ὁ κόσμος ἐπὶ τοὺς παράφρονas.

Πορεύονται εὐστοχοὶ βολίδες ἀστραπῶν, καὶ ὡς ἀπὸ 21
εὐκύκλου τόξου τῶν νεφῶν ἐπὶ σκοπὸν ἀλοῦνται. Καὶ 22
ἐκ πετροβόλου θυμοῦ πλήρεις ῥιφήσονται χάλαζαι· ἀγα-
νακτῇσιν κατ' αὐτῶν ὕδωρ θαλάσσης, ποταμοὶ δὲ συγκλύ-
σουσιν ἀποτόμους.

Ἀντιστήσεται αὐτοῖς πνεῦμα δυνάμεως, καὶ ὡς λαίλαψ 23
ἐκλικμήσει αὐτούς· καὶ ἐρημώσει πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν ἀνομία,
καὶ ἡ κακοπραγία περιτρέψει θρόνους δυναστῶν.

Ἀκούσατε οὖν βασιλεῖς καὶ σύνετε, μάθετε δικασταὶ 6
περάτων γῆς. Ἐνωτίσασθε οἱ κρατοῦντες πλήθους, καὶ 2
γεγαυρομένοι ἐπὶ ὄχλοις ἐθνῶν. Ὅτι ἐδόθη παρὰ τοῦ 3
Κυρίου ἡ κράτησις ὑμῖν, καὶ ἡ δυναστεία παρὰ ὑψίστου,
ὃς ἐξετάσει ὑμῶν τὰ ἔργα, καὶ τὰς βουλάς διερευνήσει.
Ὅτι ὑπηρεταὶ ὄντες τῆς αὐτοῦ βασιλείας οὐκ ἐκρίνατε 4
ὀρθῶς, οὐδὲ ἐφυλάξατε νόμον, οὐδὲ κατὰ τὴν βουλήν τοῦ
Θεοῦ ἐπορεύθητε· φρικτῶς καὶ ταχέως ἐπιστήσεται ὑμῖν, 5
ὅτι κρίσις ἀπότομος ἐν τοῖς ὑπερέχουσιν γίνεται. Ὁ γὰρ 6
ἐλάχιστος συγγνωστός ἐστιν ἐλέους, δυνατοὶ δὲ δυνατῶς
ἐτασθήσονται· οὐ γὰρ ὑποστελεῖται πρόσωπον ὁ πάντων 7
δεσπότης, οὐδὲ ἐντραπήσεται μέγεθος· ὅτι μικρὸν καὶ
μέγαν αὐτὸς ἐποίησεν, ὁμοίως τε προνοεῖ περὶ πάντων.
Τοῖς δὲ κραταιοῖς ἰσχυρὰ ἐφίσταται ἔρευνα. 8

Πρὸς ὑμᾶς οὖν ὦ τύραννοι οἱ λόγοι μου, ἵνα μάθητε 9
σοφίαν καὶ μὴ παραπέσητε. Οἱ γὰρ φυλάξαντες ὁσίως 10
τὰ ὅσια ὁσιωθήσονται, καὶ οἱ διδαχθέντες αὐτὰ εὐρήσουσιν
ἀπολογία. Ἐπιθυμήσατε οὖν τῶν λόγων μου, ποθήσατε 11
καὶ παιδευθήσεσθε.

Λαμπρὰ καὶ ἀμάραντός ἐστιν ἡ σοφία, καὶ εὐχερῶς 12
θεωρεῖται ὑπὸ τῶν ἀγαπώντων αὐτήν, καὶ εὐρίσκεται ὑπὸ
τῶν ζητούντων αὐτήν.

Φθάνει τοὺς ἐπιθυμοῦντας προγνωσθῆναι. Ὁ ὀρθρί- 13, 14
σας ἐπ' αὐτήν οὐ κοπιάσει, πάρεδρον γὰρ εὐρήσει τῶν
πελῶν αὐτοῦ. Τὸ γὰρ ἐνθυμηθῆναι περὶ αὐτῆς φρονήσεως 15
τελειότης, καὶ ὁ ἀγρυπνήσας δι' αὐτὴν ταχέως ἀμέριμνος
ἔσται. Ὅτι τοὺς ἀξίους αὐτῆς αὕτη περιέρχεται ζητοῦσα, 16
καὶ ἐν ταῖς τρίβοις φαντάζεται αὐτοῖς εὐμενῶς, καὶ ἐν
πάσῃ ἐπινοίᾳ ὑπαντᾷ αὐτοῖς. Ἀρχὴ γὰρ αὐτῆς ἡ ἀλη- 17
θεστάτη παιδείας ἐπιθυμία, φροντίς δὲ παιδείας ἀγάπη,
ἀγάπη δὲ τήρησις νόμων αὐτῆς, προσοχὴ δὲ νόμων βεβαί- 18
ωσις ἀφθαρσίας, ἀφθαρσία δὲ ἐγγὺς εἶναι ποιεῖ Θεοῦ. 19
Ἐπιθυμία ἄρα σοφίας ἀνάγει ἐπὶ βασιλείαν. 20

Εἰ οὖν ἤδεσθε ἐπὶ θρόνοις καὶ σκήπτροις τύραννοι 21
λαῶν, τιμήσατε σοφίαν, ἵνα εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα βασιλεύσητε·
τί δέ ἐστι σοφία καὶ πῶς ἐγένετο, ἀπαγγελῶ, καὶ οὐκ 22
ἀποκρύψω ὑμῖν μυστήρια, ἀλλ' ἐπ' ἀρχῆς γενέσεως
ἐξιχνιάσω, καὶ θήσω εἰς τὸ ἐμφανὲς τὴν γνώσιν αὐτῆς,

- 23 καὶ οὐ μὴ παροδεύσω τὴν ἀλήθειαν· οὔτε μὴν φθόνῳ
 τετηκότι συνοδεύσω, ὅτι οὗτος οὐ κοινωνήσκει σοφία.
 24 Πλήθος δὲ σοφῶν σωτηρία κόσμου, καὶ βασιλεὺς φρόνι-
 25 μος εὐστάθεια δῆμον. Ὡστε παιδεύεσθε τοῖς ῥήμασί μου,
 καὶ ὠφεληθήσεσθε.
 7 Εἰμι μὲν καὶ γὰρ θνητὸς ἄνθρωπος, ἴσος ἅπασιν, καὶ
 2 γηγενοῦς ἀπόγονος πρωτοπλάστου. Καὶ ἐν κοιλίᾳ μητρὸς
 ἐγλύφην σὰρξ δεκαμηνιαίῳ χρόνῳ, παγεῖς ἐν αἵματι ἐκ
 3 σπέρματος ἀνδρὸς καὶ ἡδονῆς ὑπνῷ συνελθούσης. Καὶ
 ἐγὼ δὲ γενόμενος ἔσπασα τὸν κοινὸν ἀέρα, καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν
 ὁμοιοπαθῆ κατέπεσον γῆν, πρώτην φωνὴν τὴν ὁμοίαν
 4 πᾶσιν ἴσα κλαίων. Ἐν σπαργάνοις ἀνετράφην, καὶ ἐν
 5 φροντίσιν. Οὐδεὶς γὰρ βασιλεὺς ἐτέραν ἔσχε γενέσεως
 6 ἀρχήν. Μία δὲ πάντων εἰσόδος εἰς τὸν βίον, ἕξοδος τε ἴση.
 7 Διὰ τοῦτο ἠῤῥάμην, καὶ φρόνησις ἐδόθη μοι, ἐπεκα-
 8 λεσάμην, καὶ ἡλθέ μοι πνεῦμα σοφίας. Προέκρινα αὐτὴν
 σκῆπτρων καὶ θρόνων, καὶ πλοῦτον οὐδὲν ἡγησάμην ἐν
 9 συγκρίσει αὐτῆς. Οὐδὲ ὁμοίωσα αὐτῇ λίθον ἀτίμητον,
 ὅτι ὁ πᾶς χρυσὸς ἐν ὄψει αὐτῆς ψάμμος ὀλίγη, καὶ ὡς
 10 πηλὸς λογισθήσεται ἄργυρος ἐναντίον αὐτῆς. Ὑπὲρ
 ὑγίειαν καὶ εὐμορφίαν ἡγάπησα αὐτὴν, καὶ προειλόμην
 αὐτὴν ἀντὶ φωτὸς ἔχειν, ὅτι ἀκοίμητον τὸ ἐκ ταύτης
 φέγγος.
 11 Ἦλθε δέ μοι τὰ ἀγαθὰ ὁμοῦ πάντα μετ' αὐτῆς, καὶ
 12 ἀναρίθμητος πλοῦτος ἐν χερσὶν αὐτῆς. Εὐφράνθην δὲ
 ἐπὶ πάντων, ὅτι αὐτῶν ἡγείται σοφία, ἡγνούν δὲ αὐτὴν
 γενέτιν εἶναι τούτων.
 13 Ἀδόλως τε ἔμαθον, ἀφθόνως τε μεταδίδωμι, τὸν πλοῦ-
 14 τον αὐτῆς οὐκ ἀποκρύπτομαι. Ἀνεκλιπῆς γὰρ θησαυρὸς
 ἐστὶν ἀνθρώποις, ὃν οἱ χρησάμενοι πρὸς Θεὸν ἐστείλαντο
 φιλίαν, διὰ τὰς ἐκ παιδείας δωρεὰς συσταθέντες.
 15 Ἐμοὶ δὲ δῶκε ὁ Θεὸς εἰπεῖν κατὰ γνώμην, καὶ ἐνθυμη-
 θῆναι ἀξίως τῶν δεδομένων, ὅτι αὐτὸς καὶ τῆς σοφίας
 16 ὁδηγὸς ἐστὶ, καὶ τῶν σοφῶν διορθωτής. Ἐν γὰρ χειρὶ
 αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡμεῖς καὶ οἱ λόγοι ἡμῶν, πᾶσά τε φρόνησις
 17 καὶ ἐργατειῶν ἐπιστήμη. Αὐτὸς γὰρ μοι ἔδωκε τῶν
 ὄντων γνῶσιν ἀψευδῆ, εἰδέναι σύστασιν κόσμου καὶ
 18 ἐνέργειαν στοιχείων, ἀρχὴν καὶ τέλος καὶ μεσότητά χρό-
 19 νων, τροπῶν ἀλλαγὰς καὶ μεταβολὰς καιρῶν, ἐνιαυτῶν
 20 κύκλους καὶ ἀστέρων θέσεις, φύσεις ζώων καὶ θυμοὺς
 θηρίων, πνευμάτων βίας καὶ διαλογισμοὺς ἀνθρώπων,
 21 διαφορὰς φυτῶν καὶ δυνάμεις ῥιζῶν, ὅσα τέ ἐστι κρυπτὰ
 καὶ ἐμφανῆ ἔγνω.
 22 Ἡ γὰρ πάντων τεχνίτις ἐδίδαξέ με σοφία· ἐστὶ γὰρ ἐν
 αὐτῇ πνεῦμα νοερὸν, ἅγιον, μονογενὲς, πολυμερὲς, λεπτὸν,
 εὐκίνητον, τρανὸν, ἀμόλυντον, σαφές, ἀπῆμαντον, φιλάγα-
 23 θον, ὀξύ, ἀκώλυτον, εὐεργετικὸν, φιλόανθρωπον, βέβαιον,
 ἀσφαλές, ἀμέριμνον, παντοδύναμον, πανεπίσκοπον, καὶ διὰ
 πάντων χωρὸν πνευμάτων νοερῶν, καθαρῶν, λεπτοτάτων.
 24 Πάσης γὰρ κινήσεως κινητικώτερον σοφία, διήκει δὲ
 25 καὶ χωρεῖ διὰ πάντων διὰ τὴν καθαρότητα. Ἀτμὶς γὰρ
 ἐστὶ τῆς τοῦ Θεοῦ δυνάμεως, καὶ ἀπόρροια τῆς τοῦ

will not pass over the truth. ²³ Neither will I go with consuming envy; for such a man shall have no fellowship with wisdom. ²⁴ But the multitude of the wise is the welfare of the world: and a wise king is the upholding of the people. ²⁵ Receive therefore instruction through my words, and it shall do you good.

I myself also am a mortal man, like to all, and the offspring of him that was first made of the earth, ² and in my mother's womb was fashioned to be flesh in the time of ten months, being compacted in blood, of the seed of man, and the pleasure that came with sleep. ³ And when I was born, I drew in the common air, and fell upon the earth, which is of like nature, and the first voice which I uttered was crying, as all others do. ⁴ I was nursed in swaddling clothes, and that with cares. ⁵ For there is no king that had any other beginning of birth. ⁶ For all men have one entrance into life, and the like going out.

⁷ Wherefore I prayed, and understanding was given me: I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me. ⁸ I preferred her before sceptres and thrones, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison of her. ⁹ Neither compared I unto her any precious stone, because all gold in respect of her is as a little sand, and silver shall be counted as clay before her. ¹⁰ I loved her above health and beauty, and chose to have her instead of light: for the light that cometh from her never goeth out.

¹¹ All good things together came to me with her, and innumerable riches in her hands. ¹² And I rejoiced in *them* all, because wisdom goeth before them: and I knew not that she was the mother of them.

¹³ I learned diligently, and do communicate *her* liberally: I do not hide her riches. ¹⁴ For she is a treasure unto men that never faileth: which they that use become the friends of God, being commended for the gifts that come from learning.

¹⁵ God hath granted me to speak as I would, and to conceive as is meet for the things that are given me: because it is he that leadeth unto wisdom, and directeth the wise. ¹⁶ For in his hand are both we and our words; all wisdom also, and knowledge of workmanship. ¹⁷ For he hath given me certain knowledge of the things that are, namely, to know how the world was made, and the operation of the elements: ¹⁸ the beginning, ending, and midst of the times: the alterations of the turning of the sun, and change of seasons: ¹⁹ the circuits of years, and positions of stars: ²⁰ the natures of living creatures, and the furies of wild beasts: the violence of winds, and the reasonings of men: the diversities of plants, and the virtues of roots: ²¹ and all such things as are either secret or manifest, *them* I know.

²² For wisdom, which is the worker of all things, taught me: for in her is an understanding spirit, holy, one only, manifold, subtil, lively, clear, undefiled, plain, not subject to hurt, loving the thing that is good, quick, which cannot be letted, ready to do good, ²³ kind to man, stedfast, sure, free from care, having all power, overseeing all things, and going through all understanding, pure, and most subtil, spirits.

²⁴ For wisdom is more moving than any motion: she passeth and goeth through all things by reason of her pureness. ²⁵ For she is the breath of the power of God, and a pure influence flowing from

the glory of the Almighty: therefore can no defiled thing fall into her. ²⁶ For she is the brightness of the everlasting light, the unspotted mirror of the power of God, and the image of his goodness. ²⁷ And being but one, she can do all things: and remaining in herself, she maketh all things new: and in all ages entering into holy souls, she maketh them friends of God, and prophets.

²⁸ For God loveth none but him that dwelleth with wisdom. ²⁹ For she is more beautiful than the sun, and above all the order of stars: being compared with the light, she is found before it. ³⁰ For after this cometh night: but vice shall not prevail against wisdom.

Wisdom reacheth from one end to another mightily; and sweetly doth she order all things.

² I loved her, and sought *her* out from my youth, I desired to make *her* my spouse, and I was a lover of her beauty. ³ In that she is conversant with God, she magnifieth her nobility: yea, the Lord of all things himself loved her. ⁴ For she is privy to the mysteries of the knowledge of God, and a lover of his works.

⁵ If riches be a possession to be desired in this life; what is richer than wisdom, that worketh all things? ⁶ And if prudence work; who of all that are is a more cunning workman than she? ⁷ And if a man love righteousness, her labours are virtues: for she teacheth temperance and prudence, justice and fortitude: which are such things, as men can have nothing more profitable in their life. ⁸ If a man desire much experience, she knoweth things of old, and conjectureth *aright* what is to come: she knoweth the subtilties of speeches, and can expound dark sentences: she foreseeth signs and wonders, and the events of seasons and times.

⁹ Therefore I purposed to take her to me to live with me, knowing that she would be a counsellor of good things, and a comfort in cares and grief. ¹⁰ For her sake I shall have estimation among the multitude, and honour with the elders, though I be young. ¹¹ I shall be found of a quick conceit in judgment, and shall be admired in the sight of great men. ¹² When I hold my tongue, they shall bide my leisure, and when I speak, they shall give good ear unto me: if I talk much, they shall lay their hands upon their mouth.

¹³ Moreover by the means of her I shall obtain immortality, and leave behind me an everlasting memorial to them that come after me. ¹⁴ I shall set the people in order, and the nations shall be subject unto me. ¹⁵ Horrible tyrants shall be afraid when they do but hear of me; I shall be found good among the multitude, and valiant in war. ¹⁶ After I am come into mine house, I will repose myself with her: for her conversation hath no bitterness: and to live with her hath no sorrow, but mirth and joy.

¹⁷ Now when I considered these things in myself, and pondered them in my heart, how that to be allied unto wisdom is immortality; ¹⁸ and great pleasure it is to have her friendship; and in the works of her hands are infinite riches; and in the exercise of conference with her, prudence; and in talking with her, a good report; I went about seeking how to take her to me.

¹⁹ For I was a witty child, and had a good spirit. ²⁰ Yea rather, being good, I came into a body undefiled. ²¹ Nevertheless, when I perceived that

παντοκράτορος δόξης ειλικρινής· διὰ τοῦτο οὐδὲν μεμια-
μένον εἰς αὐτὴν παρεμπίπτει. Ἀπαύγασμα γάρ ἐστι 26
φωτὸς αἰδίου, καὶ ἔσοπτρον ἀκηλίδωτον τῆς τοῦ Θεοῦ
ἐνεργείας, καὶ εἰκὼν τῆς ἀγαθότητος αὐτοῦ. Μία δὲ οὔσα 27
πάντα δύναται, καὶ μένουσα ἐν αὐτῇ τὰ πάντα καινίζει,
καὶ κατὰ γενεὰς εἰς ψυχὰς ὁσίας μεταβαίνουσα, φίλους
Θεοῦ καὶ προφήτας κατασκευάζει.

Οὐθὲν γὰρ ἀγαπᾷ ὁ Θεὸς, εἰ μὴ τὸν σοφία συνοικούντα. 28
Ἔστι γὰρ αὕτη εὐπρεπεστέρα ἡλίου, καὶ ὑπὲρ πᾶσαν ἄσ- 29
τρων θέσιν, φωτὶ συγκρινομένη εὐρίσκεται προτέρα. Τοῦτο 30
μὲν γὰρ διαδέχεται νύξ, σοφίας δὲ οὐκ ἀντισχύει κακία.

Διατείνει δὲ ἀπὸ πέραςτος εἰς πέρας εὐρώστως, καὶ 8
διοικεῖ τὰ πάντα χρηστῶς.

Ταύτην ἐφίλησα καὶ ἐξεζήτησα ἐκ νεότητός μου, καὶ 2
ἐζήτησα νύμφην ἀγαγέσθαι ἐμαυτῷ, καὶ ἐραστής ἐγενόμην
τοῦ κάλλους αὐτῆς. Εὐγένειαν δοξάζει συμβίωσιν Θεοῦ 3
ἔχουσα, καὶ ὁ πάντων δεσπότης ἡγάπησεν αὐτήν. Μυστίς 4
γάρ ἐστι τῆς τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐπιστήμης, καὶ αἰρετὶς τῶν ἔργων
αὐτοῦ.

Εἰ δὲ πλοῦτός ἐστιν ἐπιθυμητὸν κτήμα ἐν βίῳ, τί σοφίας 5
πλουσιώτερον τῆς τὰ πάντα ἐργαζομένης; Εἰ δὲ φρόνησις 6
ἐργάζεται, τίς αὐτῆς τῶν ὄντων μᾶλλον ἐστι τεχνίτης;
Καὶ εἰ δικαιοσύνην ἀγαπᾷ τις, οἱ πόνοι ταύτης εἰσὶν ἀρεταί· 7
σωφροσύνην γὰρ καὶ φρόνησιν ἐκδιδάσκει, δικαιοσύνην
καὶ ἀνδρίαν, ὧν χρησιμώτερον οὐδὲν ἐστὶν ἐν βίῳ ἀνθρώ-
ποις. Εἰ δὲ καὶ πολυπειρίαν ποθεῖ τις, οἶδε τὰ ἀρχαῖα 8
καὶ τὰ μέλλοντα εἰκάζειν, ἐπίσταται στροφὰς λόγων καὶ
λύσεις αἰνιγμάτων, σημεῖα καὶ τέρατα προγινώσκει, καὶ
ἐκβάσεις καιρῶν καὶ χρόνων.

Ἐκρίνα τοίνυν ταύτην ἀγαγέσθαι πρὸς συμβίωσιν, εἰδὼς 9
ὅτι ἔσται μοι σύμβουλος ἀγαθῶν, καὶ παραίνεσις φρον-
τίδων καὶ λύπης. Ἐξω δὲ αὐτὴν δόξαν ἐν ὄχλοις, καὶ 10
τιμὴν παρὰ πρεσβυτέροις ὁ νέος. Ὅξους εὐρεθήσομαι ἐν 11
κρίσει, καὶ ἐν ὧσι δυναστῶν θαυμασθήσομαι. Σιγῶντά 12
με περιμενοῦσι, καὶ φθεγγομένη προσέξουσιν, καὶ λαοῦν-
τος ἐπιπλεῖον, χεῖρα ἐπιθήσουσιν ἐπὶ στόμα αὐτῶν.

Ἐξω δὲ αὐτὴν ἀθανασίαν, καὶ μνήμην αἰώνιον τοῖς μετ' 13
ἐμὲ ἀπολείψω. Διοικήσω λαοὺς, καὶ ἔθνη ὑποταγήσεται 14
μοι. Φοβηθήσονται με ἀκούσαντες τύραννοι φρικτοὶ, ἐν 15
πλήθει φανοῦμαι ἀγαθός, καὶ ἐν πολέμῳ ἀνδρείος. Εἰς- 16
ελθὼν εἰς τὸν οἶκόν μου προσαναπαύσομαι αὐτῇ· οὐ γὰρ
ἔχει πικρίαν ἢ συναναστροφή αὐτῆς, οὐδὲ ὀδύνην ἢ συμ-
βιώσεις αὐτῆς, ἀλλὰ εὐφροσύνην καὶ χαράν.

Ταῦτα λογισάμενος ἐν ἐμαυτῷ, καὶ φροντίσας ἐν καρδίᾳ 17
μου, ὅτι ἐστὶν ἀθανασία ἐν συγγενείᾳ σοφίας, καὶ ἐν 18
φιλίᾳ αὐτῆς τέρψις ἀγαθῇ, καὶ ἐν πόνοις χειρῶν αὐτῆς
πλοῦτος ἀνεκλιπής, καὶ ἐν συγγυμνασίᾳ ὁμιλίας αὐτῆς
φρόνησις, καὶ εὐκλεία ἐν κοινωνίᾳ λόγων αὐτῆς, περιήειν
ζητῶν ὅπως λάβω αὐτὴν εἰς ἐμαυτόν.

Παῖς δὲ ἤμην εὐφυής, ψυχῆς τε ἔλαχον ἀγαθῆς, 19
μᾶλλον δὲ ἀγαθὸς ὧν ἦλθον εἰς σῶμα ἀμίαντον. 20
Γινούς δὲ ὅτι οὐκ ἄλλως ἔσομαι ἐγκρατὴς, ἢ ἐὰν μὴ ὁ Θεὸς 21

δῶ, καὶ τοῦτο δ' ἦν φρονήσεως τὸ εἰδέναι τίνος ἡ χάρις, ἐνένυχον τῷ Κυρίῳ, καὶ ἐδεήθην αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπον ἐξ ὅλης τῆς καρδίας μου,

- 9 Θεὲ πατέρων καὶ Κύριε τοῦ ἐλέους σου, ὁ ποιήσας τὰ
2 πάντα ἐν λόγῳ σου, καὶ τῇ σοφίᾳ σου κατεσκεύασας ἄν-
θρωπον, ἵνα δεσπόζῃ τῶν ὑπὸ σοῦ γενομένων κτισμάτων,
3 καὶ διέπη τὸν κόσμον ἐν ὁσιότητι καὶ δικαιοσύνῃ, καὶ ἐν
4 εὐθύτητι ψυχῆς κρίσιν κρίνῃ· δός μοι τὴν τῶν σῶν θρόνων
πάρεδρον σοφίαν, καὶ μὴ με ἀποδοκιμάσῃς ἐκ παίδων σου.
5 Ὅτι ἐγὼ δοῦλος σὸς καὶ υἱὸς τῆς παιδείας σου, ἄνθρωπος
ἀσθενὴς καὶ ὀλιγοχρόνιος καὶ ἐλάσσων ἐν συνέσει κρίσεως
καὶ νόμων.
6 Κἂν γάρ τις ἦ τέλειος ἐν υἱοῖς ἀνθρώπων, τῆς ἀπὸ σοῦ
σοφίας ἀπούσης, εἰς οὐδὲν λογισθήσεται.
7 Σὺ με προεἴλω βασιλέα λαοῦ σου, καὶ δικαστὴν νύων
8 σου καὶ θυγατέρων. Εἶπας οἰκοδομῆσαι ναὸν ἐν ὄρει
ἁγίῳ σου, καὶ ἐν πόλει κατασκηνώσεώς σου θυσιαστήριον,
9 μίμημα σκηνῆς ἁγίας ἣν προητοίμασας ἀπ' ἀρχῆς. Καὶ
μετὰ σοῦ ἡ σοφία ἡ εἰδυῖα τὰ ἔργα σου, καὶ παρούσα ὅτε
ἐποίεις τὸν κόσμον, καὶ ἐπισταμένη τί ἀρεστὸν ἐν ὀφθαλ-
10 μοῖς σου, καὶ τί εὐθὲς ἐν ἐντολαῖς σου. Ἐξαπόστειλον
αὐτὴν ἐξ ἁγίων οὐρανῶν, καὶ ἀπὸ θρόνου δόξης σου
πέμψον αὐτὴν, ἵνα συμπαρουσά μοι κοπιάσῃ, καὶ γνῶ τί
11 εὐάρεστόν ἐστι παρὰ σοί. Οἶδε γὰρ ἐκείνη πάντα καὶ
συνιεῖ, καὶ ὁδηγήσει με ἐν ταῖς πράξεσί μου σωφρόνως,
12 καὶ φυλάξει με ἐν τῇ δόξῃ αὐτῆς. Καὶ ἔσται προσδεκτὰ
τὰ ἔργα μου, καὶ διακρινῶ τὸν λαόν σου δικαίως, καὶ
ἔσομαι ἅγιος θρόνων πατρός μου.
13 Τίς γὰρ ἄνθρωπος γνώσεται βουλὴν Θεοῦ; ἢ τίς ἐν-
14 θυμηθήσεται τί θέλει ὁ Κύριος; Λογισμοὶ γὰρ θνητῶν
15 δειλοὶ, καὶ ἐπισφαλεῖς αἱ ἐπίνοιαί ἡμῶν. Φθαρτὸν γὰρ
σῶμα βαρύνει ψυχὴν, καὶ βρίθει τὸ γεῶδες σκῆνος νοῦν
16 πολυφροντίδα. Καὶ μόλις εἰκάζομεν τὰ ἐπὶ γῆς, καὶ τὰ
ἐν χερσὶν εὐρίσκομεν μετὰ πόνον· τὰ δὲ ἐν οὐρανοῖς τίς
17 ἐξιχνιάσει; Βουλὴν δέ σου τίς ἔγνω, εἰ μὴ σὺ ἔδωκας
σοφίαν, καὶ ἔπεμψας τὸ ἅγιόν σου πνεῦμα ἀπὸ ὑψίστων;
18 Καὶ οὕτως διωρθώθησαν αἱ τρίβοι τῶν ἐπὶ γῆς, καὶ τὰ
ἀρεστά σου ἐδιδάχθησαν ἄνθρωποι, καὶ τῇ σοφίᾳ ἐσώ-
θησαν.
10 Αὕτη πρωτόπλαστον πατέρα κόσμου μόνον κτισθέντα
διεφύλαξε, καὶ ἐξείλατο αὐτὸν ἐκ παραπτώματος ἰδίου,
2 ἔδωκε τε αὐτῷ ἰσχὺν κρατῆσαι ἀπάντων.
3 Ἀποστὰς δὲ ἀπ' αὐτῆς ἄδικος ἐν ὀργῇ αὐτοῦ, ἀδελφο-
4 κτόνοις συναπώλετο θυμοῖς, δι' ὃν κατακλυζομένην γῆν
πάλιν διέσωσε σοφία, δι' εὐτελοῦς ξύλου τὸν δίκαιον
5 κυβερνήσασα. Αὕτη καὶ ἐν ὁμονοίᾳ πονηρίας ἐθνῶν
συγχυθέντων εὗρε τὸν δίκαιον, καὶ ἐτήρησεν αὐτὸν
ἄμειπτον Θεῷ, καὶ ἐπὶ τέκνου σπλάγχνοις ἰσχυρὸν
ἐφύλαξεν.
6 Αὕτη δίκαιον, ἐξαπολλυμένων ἀσεβῶν, ἐρρύσατο
7 φυγόντα πῦρ καταβάσιον Πενταπόλεως· οἷς ἐπὶ μαρτύριον
τῆς πονηρίας καπνίζομένη καθέστηκε χέρσος, καὶ ἀτε-

I could not otherwise obtain her, except God gave her me; and that was a point of wisdom also to know whose gift she was; I prayed unto the Lord, and besought him, and with my whole heart I said,

O God of my fathers, and Lord of mercy, who hast made all things with thy word,² and ordained man through thy wisdom, that he should have dominion over the creatures which thou hast made,³ and order the world according to equity and righteousness, and execute judgment with an upright heart: ⁴give me wisdom, that sitteth by thy throne; and reject me not from among thy children: ⁵for I thy servant and son of thine handmaid am a feeble person, and of a short time, and too young for the understanding of judgment and laws.

⁶For though a man be never so perfect among the children of men, yet if thy wisdom be not with him, he shall be nothing regarded.

⁷Thou hast chosen me to be a king of thy people, and a judge of thy sons and daughters: ⁸thou hast commanded me to build a temple upon thy holy mount, and an altar in the city wherein thou dwellest, a resemblance of the holy tabernacle, which thou hast prepared from the beginning. ⁹And wisdom was with thee: which knoweth thy works, and was present when thou madest the world, and knew what was acceptable in thy sight, and right in thy commandments. ¹⁰O send her out of thy holy heavens, and from the throne of thy glory, that being present she may labour with me, that I may know what is pleasing unto thee. ¹¹For she knoweth and understandeth all things, and she shall lead me soberly in my doings, and preserve me in her power. ¹²So shall my works be acceptable, and then shall I judge thy people righteously, and be worthy to sit in my father's seat.

¹³For what man is he that can know the counsel of God? or who can think what the will of the Lord is? ¹⁴For the thoughts of mortal men are miserable, and our devices are but uncertain. ¹⁵For the corruptible body presseth down the soul, and the earthly tabernacle weigheth down the mind that museth upon many things. ¹⁶And hardly do we guess aright at things that are upon earth, and with labour do we find the things that are before us: but the things that are in heaven who hath searched out? ¹⁷And thy counsel who hath known, except thou give wisdom, and send thy Holy Spirit from above? ¹⁸For so the ways of them which lived on the earth were reformed, and men were taught the things that are pleasing unto thee, and were saved through wisdom.

She preserved the first formed father of the world, that was created alone, and brought him out of his fall,² and gave him power to rule all things.

³But when the unrighteous went away from her in his anger, he perished also in the fury wherewith he murdered his brother. ⁴For whose cause the earth being drowned with the flood, wisdom again preserved it, and directed the course of the righteous in a piece of wood of small value. ⁵Moreover, the nations in their wicked conspiracy being confounded, she found out the righteous, and preserved him blameless unto God, and kept him strong against his tender compassion toward his son.

⁶When the ungodly perished, she delivered the righteous man, who fled from the fire which fell down upon the five cities. ⁷Of whose wickedness, even to this day the waste land that smoketh is a testimony, and plants bearing fruit that never

come to ripeness: and a standing pillar of salt is a monument of an unbelieving soul. ⁸ For regarding not wisdom, they gat not only this hurt, that they knew not the things which were good; but also left behind them to the world a memorial of their foolishness: so that in the things wherein they offended they could not so much as be hid. ⁹ But wisdom delivered from pain those that attended upon her.

¹⁰ When the righteous fled from his brother's wrath, she guided him in right paths, shewed him the kingdom of God, and gave him knowledge of holy things, made him rich in his travels, and multiplied *the fruit of his labours*. ¹¹ In the covetousness of such as oppressed him she stood by him, and made him rich. ¹² She defended him from his enemies, and kept him safe from those that lay in wait, and in a sore conflict she gave him the victory; that he might know that godliness is stronger than all.

¹³ When the righteous was sold, she forsook him not, but delivered him from sin: she went down with him into the pit, ¹⁴ and left him not in bonds, till she brought him the sceptre of the kingdom, and power against those that oppressed him: as for them that had accused him, she shewed them to be liars, and gave him perpetual glory.

¹⁵ She delivered the righteous people and blameless seed from the nation that oppressed them.

¹⁶ She entered into the soul of the servant of the Lord, and withstood dreadful kings in wonders and signs; ¹⁷ rendered to the righteous a reward of their labours, guided them in a marvellous way, and was unto them for a cover by day, and a light of stars in the night season; ¹⁸ brought them through the Red sea, and led them through much water: ¹⁹ but she drowned their enemies, and cast them up out of the bottom of the deep. ²⁰ Therefore the righteous spoiled the ungodly, and praised thy holy name, O Lord, and magnified with one accord thine hand, that fought for them. ²¹ For wisdom opened the mouth of the dumb, and made the tongues of them that cannot speak eloquent.

She prospered their works in the hand of the holy prophet. ² They went through the wilderness that was not inhabited, and pitched tents in places where there lay no way. ³ They stood against their enemies, and were avenged of their adversaries. ⁴ When they were thirsty, they called upon thee, and water was given them out of the flinty rock, and their thirst was quenched out of the hard stone. ⁵ For by what things their enemies were punished, by the same they in their need were benefited. ⁶ For instead of a fountain of a perpetual running river troubled with foul blood, ⁷ for a manifest reproof of that commandment, whereby the infants were slain, thou gavest unto them abundance of water by a means which they hoped not for: ⁸ declaring by that thirst then how thou hadst punished their adversaries.

⁹ For when they were tried, albeit but in mercy chastised, they knew how the ungodly were judged in wrath and tormented, ^β thirsting in another manner than the just. ¹⁰ For these thou didst admonish and try, as a father: but the others, as a severe king, thou didst condemn and punish. ¹¹ Whether they were absent or present, they were vexed alike. ¹² For a double grief came upon them, and a groaning for the remembrance of things past. ¹³ For when they heard by their own punishments the other to be benefited,

λέσιν ὥραιοι καρποφοροῦντα φυτά· ἀπιστοῦσης ψυχῆς μνημεῖον ἐστηκυῖα στήλη ἀλός. Σοφίαν γὰρ παροδεύσαντες οὐ μόνον ἐβλάβησαν τοῦ μὴ γινῶναι τὰ καλὰ, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῆς ἀφροσύνης ἀπέλιπον τῷ βίῳ μνημόσυνον, ἵνα ἐν οἷς ἐσφάλησαν μηδὲ λαθεῖν δυνηθῶσι. Σοφία δὲ τοὺς θεραπεύσαντας αὐτὴν ἐκ πόνων ἐρρύσατο.

Αὕτη φυγάδα ὀργῆς ἀδελφοῦ δίκαιον ὠδήγησεν ἐν τριβόις εὐθείαις, ἔδειξεν αὐτῷ βασιλείαν Θεοῦ, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ γνῶσιν ἁγίων, εὐπόρησεν αὐτὸν ἐν μόχοις, καὶ ἐπλήθυνε τοὺς πόνους αὐτοῦ. Ἐν πλεονεξίᾳ κατισχύοντων αὐτὸν παρέστη, καὶ ἐπλούτισεν αὐτόν. Διεφύλαξεν αὐτὸν ἀπὸ ἐχθρῶν, καὶ ἀπὸ ἐνεδρευόντων ἡσφαλίσατο, καὶ ἀγῶνα ἰσχυρὸν ἐβράβευσεν αὐτῷ, ἵνα γινῶ, ὅτι παντὸς δυνατωτέρα ἐστὶν εὐσέβεια.

Αὕτη πραθέντα δίκαιον οὐκ ἐγκατέλιπεν, ἀλλὰ ἐξ ἁμαρτίας ἐρρύσατο αὐτόν· συγκατέβη αὐτῷ εἰς λάκκον, καὶ ἐν δεσμοῖς οὐκ ἀφῆκεν αὐτόν, ἕως ἥνεγκεν αὐτῷ σκῆπτρα βασιλείας καὶ ἐξουσίαν τυρανούντων αὐτοῦ· ψευδεῖς τε ἔδειξε τοὺς μωμησαμένους αὐτόν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ δόξαν αἰώνιον.

Αὕτη λαὸν ὅσιον καὶ σπέρμα ἄμεμπτον ἐρρύσατο ἐξ ἔθνους θλιβόντων.

Εἰσῆλθεν εἰς ψυχὴν θεραπείας Κυρίου, καὶ ἀνέστη βασιλεῦσι φοβεροῖς ἐν τέρασι καὶ σημείοις. Ἀπέδωκεν ὀσίοις μισθὸν κόπων αὐτῶν, ὠδήγησεν αὐτοὺς ἐν ὁδῷ θαυμαστῇ, καὶ ἐγένετο αὐτοῖς εἰς σκέπην ἡμέρας, καὶ εἰς φλόγα ἄστρον τὴν νύκτα. Διεβίβασεν αὐτοὺς θάλασσαν ἐρυθρὰν, καὶ διήγαγεν αὐτοὺς δι' ὕδατος πολλοῦ. Τοὺς δὲ ἐχθροὺς αὐτῶν κατέκλυσε, καὶ ἐκ βάθους ἀβύσσου ἀνέβρασεν αὐτούς. Διὰ τοῦτο δίκαιοι ἐσκύλευσαν ἀσεβεῖς, καὶ ὑμνησαν Κύριε τὸ ὄνομα τὸ ἅγιόν σου, τὴν τε ὑπερμαχόν σου χεῖρα ἤνεσαν ὁμοθυμαδόν. Ὅτι ἡ σοφία ἤνοιξε στόμα κωφῶν, καὶ γλώσσας νηπίων ἔθηκε τρανάς.

Εὐδωῶσε τὰ ἔργα αὐτῶν ἐν χειρὶ προφήτου ἁγίου. Διῶδενσαν ἔρημον ἀοίκητον, καὶ ἐν ἀβάτοις ἐπηξάν σκηνάς. Ἀντέστησαν πολεμίοις, καὶ ἡμύναντο ἐχθροῖς. Ἐδίψησαν καὶ ἐπεκαλέσαντό σε, καὶ ἐδόθη αὐτοῖς ἐκ πέτρας ἀκροτόμου ὕδωρ, καὶ ἱάμα διψῆς ἐκ λίθου σκληροῦ. Δι' ὧν γὰρ ἐκολάσθησαν οἱ ἐχθροὶ αὐτῶν, διὰ τούτων αὐτοὶ ἀποροῦντες εὐεργετήθησαν. Ἀντὶ μὲν πηγῆς ἀενάου ποταμοῦ αἵματι λυθρώδει ταραχθέντες εἰς ἑλεγχον νηπιόκτονου διατάγματος, ἔδωκας αὐτοῖς δαψιλὲς ὕδωρ ἀνελλιπῶς· δείξας διὰ τοῦ τότε δίψους πῶς τοὺς ὑπεναντίους ἐκόλασας.

Ὅτε γὰρ ἐπειράσθησαν, καίπερ ἐν ἐλέει παιδευόμενοι, ἔγνωσαν πῶς ἐν ὀργῇ κρινόμενοι ἀσεβεῖς ἐβασανίζοντο. Τούτους μὲν γὰρ ὡς πατὴρ νουθεντῶν ἐδοκίμασας, ἐκείνους δὲ ὡς ἀπότομος βασιλεὺς καταδικάζων ἐξήτασας. Καὶ ἀπόντες δὲ καὶ παρόντες ὁμοίως ἐτρύχοντο. Διπλῇ γὰρ αὐτοὺς ἔλαβε λύπη, καὶ στεναγμὸς μνημῶν τῶν παρελθουσῶν. Ὅτε γὰρ ἤκουσαν διὰ τῶν ιδίων κολάσεων

- 14 εὐεργετουμένους αὐτοὺς, ἤσθοντό τοῦ Κυρίου. Τὸν γὰρ ἐν ἐκθέσει πάλαι ῥιφέντα ἀπείπον χλευάζοντες, ἐπὶ τέλει τῶν ἐκβάσεων θαύμασαν, οὐχ ὅμοια δικαίοις διψήσαντες.
- 15 Ἀντὶ δὲ λογισμῶν ἀσυνέτων ἀδικίας αὐτῶν, ἐν οἷς πλανηθέντες ἐθρήσκουν ἄλογα ἐρπετὰ καὶ κνώδαλα εὐτελῆ, ἐπαπέστειλας αὐτοῖς πλῆθος ἀλόγων ζώων εἰς ἐκδίκησιν,
- 16 ἵνα γνῶσιν ὅτι δι' ὧν τις ἁμαρτάνει, διὰ τούτων κολάζεται.
- 17 Οὐ γὰρ ἡπόρει ἡ παντοδύναμός σου χεὶρ κτίσασα τὸν κόσμον ἐξ ἀμόρφου ὕλης, ἐπιπέμψαι αὐτοῖς πλῆθος ἄρκων, ἢ θρασεῖς λέοντας, ἢ νεοκτίστους θυμοῦ πλήρεις θήρας ἀγνώστους, ἢτοι πυρπνόον φυσῶντας ἄσθμα, ἢ βρόμους λικμωμένους καπνοῦ, ἢ δεινούς ἀπ' ὀμμάτων σπινθήρας ἀστράπτοντας· ὧν οὐ μόνον ἡ βλάβη ἡδύνατο συνεκτρίψαι αὐτοὺς, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἡ ὄψις ἐκφοβήσασα διολέσαι. Καὶ χωρὶς δὲ τούτων, ἐνὶ πνεύματι πεσεῖν ἐδύναντο ὑπὸ τῆς δίκης διωχθέντες, καὶ λικμηθέντες ὑπὸ πνεύματος δυνάμεώς σου· ἀλλὰ πάντα μέτρῳ καὶ ἀριθμῷ καὶ σταθμῷ διέταξας. Τὸ γὰρ μεγάλως ἰσχύειν πάρεστί σοι πάντοτε, καὶ κράτει βραχίονός σου τις ἀντιστήσεται; Ὅτι ὡς ῥοπὴ ἐκ πλαστίγγων ὅλος ὁ κόσμος ἐναντίον σου, καὶ ὡς ῥανὶς δρόσου ὀρθρινὴ κατελθοῦσα ἐπὶ γῆν.
- 23 Ἐλεεῖς δὲ πάντας, ὅτι πάντα δύνασαι, καὶ παρορᾷς ἁμαρτήματα ἀνθρώπων εἰς μετάνοιαν. Ἀγαπᾷς γὰρ τὰ ὄντα πάντα, καὶ οὐδὲν βδελύσσει ὧν ἐποίησας, οὐδὲ γὰρ ἂν μισῶν τι κατεσκεύασας. Πῶς δὲ ἔμεινεν ἂν τι εἰ μὴ σὺ ἐθέλησας; ἢ τὸ μὴ κληθὲν ὑπὸ σοῦ διετηρήθη; Φεῖδῃ δὲ πάντων, ὅτι σά ἐστι, δέσποτα φιλοψυχε.
- 12 Τὸ γὰρ ἄφθαρτόν σου πνεῦμά ἐστιν ἐν πᾶσι. Διὸ τοὺς παραπίπτοντας κατ' ὀλίγον ἐλέγχεις, καὶ ἐν οἷς ἁμαρτάνουσιν ὑπομιμνήσκων νουθετεῖς, ἵνα ἀπαλλαγέντες τῆς κακίας πιστεύσωσιν ἐπὶ σὲ Κύριε. Καὶ γὰρ τοὺς παλαιοὺς οἰκήτορας τῆς ἀγίας σου γῆς μισήσας, ἐπὶ τῷ ἔχθιστα πράσσειν ἔργα φαρμακεῶν, καὶ τελετὰς ἀνοσίων, τέκνων τε φονέας ἀνελεήμονας, καὶ σπλαγχνοφάγων ἀνθρωπίνων σαρκῶν θοίαν, καὶ αἵματος ἐκ μέσου μυσταθείας σου, καὶ αὐθέντας γονεῖς ψυχῶν ἀβοηθήτων, ἐβουλήθης ἀπολέσαι διὰ χειρῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν· ἵνα ἀξίαν ἀποικίαν δέξηται Θεοῦ παίδων ἡ παρὰ σοὶ πασῶν τιμιωτάτη γῆ.
- 8 Ἀλλὰ καὶ τούτων ὡς ἀνθρώπων ἐφείσω, ἀπέστειλάς τε προδρόμους τοῦ στρατοπέδου σου σφήκας, ἵνα αὐτοὺς καταβραχὺ ἐξολοθρεύσωσιν. Οὐκ ἀδυνατῶν ἐν παρατάξει ἀσεβεῖς δικαίοις ὑποχειρίους δοῦναι, ἢ θηρίοις δεινοῖς, ἢ λόγῳ ἀποτόμῳ ὅφ' ἐν ἐκτρίψαι· κρίνων δὲ καταβραχὺ ἐδίδους τόπον μετανοίας, οὐκ ἀγνοῶν, ὅτι πονηρὰ ἡ γένεσις αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔμφυτος ἡ κακία αὐτῶν, καὶ ὅτι οὐ μὴ ἀλλαγῇ ὁ λογισμὸς αὐτῶν εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα· σπέρμα γὰρ ἦν κατηραμένον ἀπ' ἀρχῆς· οὐδὲ εὐλαβοῦμένός τινα, ἐφ' οἷς ἡμάρτανον ἄδειαν ἐδίδους. Τίς γὰρ ἐρεῖ, τί ἐποίησας; ἢ τίς ἀντιστήσεται τῷ κρίματί σου; τίς δὲ ἐγκαλέσει σοὶ κατὰ ἐθνῶν ἀπολωλότων, ἢ σὺ ἐποίησας; ἢ τίς εἰς κατάστασίν σοι ἐλεύσεται ἔκδικος κατὰ ἀδίκων ἀνθρώπων;

they had some feeling of the Lord. ¹⁴ For whom they rejected with scorn, when he was long before thrown out at the casting forth of the infants, him in the end, when they saw what came to pass, they admired.

¹⁵ But for the foolish devices of their wickedness, wherewith being deceived they worshipped serpents void of reason, and vile beasts, thou didst send a multitude of unreasonable beasts upon them for vengeance: ¹⁶ that they might know, that wherewithal a man sinneth, by the same shall he be punished.

¹⁷ For thy Almighty hand, that made the world of matter without form, wanted not means to send among them a multitude of bears, or fierce lions, ¹⁸ or unknown wild beasts, full of rage, newly created, breathing out either a fiery vapour, or filthy scents of scattered smoke, or shooting horrible sparkles out of their eyes: ¹⁹ whereof not only the harm might dispatch them at once, but also the terrible sight utterly destroy them. ²⁰ Yea, and without these might they have fallen down with one blast, being persecuted of vengeance, and scattered abroad through the breath of thy power: but thou hast ordered all things in measure and number and weight. ²¹ For thou canst shew thy great strength at all times when thou wilt; and who may withstand the power of thine arm? ²² For the whole world before thee is as a little grain of the balance, yea, as a drop of the morning dew that falleth down upon the earth.

²³ But thou hast mercy upon all; for thou canst do all things, and winkest at the sins of men, because they should amend. ²⁴ For thou lovest all the things that are, and abhorrest nothing which thou hast made: for never wouldest thou have made any thing, if thou hadst hated it. ²⁵ And how could any thing have endured, if it had not been thy will? or been preserved, if not called by thee? ²⁶ But thou sparest all: for they are thine, O Lord, thou lover of souls.

For thine incorruptible Spirit is in all things. ² Therefore chastenest thou them by little and little that offend, and warnest them by putting them in remembrance wherein they have offended, that leaving their wickedness they may believe on thee, O Lord. ³ For it was thy will to destroy by the hands of our fathers both those old inhabitants of thy holy land, ⁴ whom thou hatedst for doing most odious works of witchcrafts, and wicked sacrifices; ⁵ and also those merciless murderers of children, and devourers of man's flesh, and the feasts of blood, ⁶ with their priests out of the midst of their idolatrous crew, and the parents, that killed with their own hands souls destitute of help: ⁷ that the land, which thou esteemedst above all other, might receive a worthy colony of God's children.

⁸ Nevertheless even those thou sparedst as men, and didst send wasps, forerunners of thine host, to destroy them by little and little. ⁹ Not that thou wast unable to bring the ungodly under the hand of the righteous in battle, or to destroy them at once with cruel beasts, or with one rough word: ¹⁰ but executing thy judgments upon them by little and little, thou gavest them place of repentance, not being ignorant that they were a naughty generation, and that their malice was bred in them, and that their cogitation would never be changed. ¹¹ For it was a cursed seed from the beginning; neither didst thou for fear of any man give them pardon for those things wherein they sinned. ¹² For who shall say, What hast thou done? or who shall withstand thy judgment? or who shall accuse thee for the nations that perish, whom thou hast made? or who shall come to stand against thee, to be

revenged for the unrighteous men? ¹³ For neither is there any God but thou that careth for all, to whom thou mightest shew that thy judgment is not unright.

¹⁴ Neither shall king or tyrant be able to set his face against thee for any whom thou hast punished. ¹⁵ Forsomuch then as thou art righteous thyself, thou orderest all things righteously: thinking it not agreeable with thy power to condemn him that hath not deserved to be punished. ¹⁶ For thy power is the beginning of righteousness, and because thou art the Lord of all, it maketh thee to be gracious unto all. ¹⁷ For when men will not believe that thou art of a full power, thou shewest thy strength, and among them that know it thou makest their boldness manifest. ¹⁸ But thou, mastering thy power, judgest with equity, and orderest us with great favour: for thou mayest use power when thou wilt.

¹⁹ But by such works hast thou taught thy people that the just man should be merciful, and hast made thy children to be of a good hope that thou givest repentance for sins. ²⁰ For if thou didst punish the enemies of thy children, and the condemned to death, with such deliberation, giving them time and place whereby they might be delivered from their malice: ²¹ with how great circumspection didst thou judge thine own sons, unto whose fathers thou hast sworn, and made covenants of good promises? ²² Therefore, whereas thou dost chasten us, thou scourgest our enemies a thousand times more, to the intent that, when we judge, we should carefully think of thy goodness, and when we ourselves are judged, we should look for mercy.

²³ Wherefore, whereas men have lived dissolutely and unrighteously, thou hast tormented them with their own abominations. ²⁴ For they went astray very far in the ways of error, and held them for gods, which even among the beasts of their enemies were despised, being deceived, as children of no understanding. ²⁵ Therefore unto them, as to children without the use of reason, thou didst send a judgment to mock them. ²⁶ But they that would not be reformed by that correction, wherein he dallied with them, shall feel a judgment worthy of God. ²⁷ For, look, for what things they grudged, when they were punished, that is, for them whom they thought to be gods; [now] being punished in them, when they saw it, they acknowledged him to be the true God, whom before they denied to know; and therefore came extreme damnation upon them.

Surely vain are all men by nature, who are ignorant of God, and could not out of the good things that are seen know him that is: neither by considering the works did they acknowledge the workmaster; ² but deemed either fire, or wind, or the swift air, or the circle of the stars, or the violent water, or the lights of heaven, to be the gods which govern the world. ³ With whose beauty if they being delighted took them to be gods; let them know how much better the Lord of them is: for the first author of beauty hath created them. ⁴ But if they were astonished at their power and virtue, let them understand by them, how much mightier he is that made them.

⁵ For by the greatness and beauty of the creatures proportionably the maker of them is seen. ⁶ But yet for this they are the less to be blamed: for they peradventure err, seeking God, and desirous to find him. ⁷ For being conversant in his works they search him diligently, and believe their sight: because the things are beautiful that are seen. ⁸ Howbeit neither are they to be

Οὔτε γὰρ Θεός ἐστι πλὴν σου, ᾧ μέλει περὶ πάντων, ¹³ ἵνα δείξῃς ὅτι οὐκ ἀδίκως ἔκρινας.

Οὔτε βασιλεὺς ἢ τύραννος ἀντοφθαλμῆσαι δυνήσεται ¹⁴ σοι περὶ ὧν ἀπώλεσας. Δίκαιος δὲ ὧν δικαίως τὰ πάντα ¹⁵ διέπεις, αὐτὸν τὸν μὴ ὀφείλοντα κολασθῆναι καταδικάσαι ἀλλότριαν ἡγούμενος τῆς σῆς δυνάμεως. Ἡ γὰρ ἰσχὺς ¹⁶ σου δικαιοσύνης ἀρχή, καὶ τὸ πάντων σε δεσπόζειν, πάντων φεῖδεσθαι ποιεῖ. Ἰσχύον γὰρ ἐνδείκνυσθαι ἀπιστοῦ- ¹⁷ μενος ἐπὶ δυνάμεως τελειότητι, καὶ ἐν τοῖς εἰδόσι τὸ θράσος ἐξελέγχεις. Σὺ δὲ δεσπότης ἰσχύος ἐν ἐπιεικείᾳ κρίνεις ¹⁸ καὶ μετὰ πολλῆς φειδῶς διοικεῖς ἡμᾶς· πάρεστι γὰρ σοι ὅταν θέλῃς τὸ δύνασθαι.

Ἐδίδαξας δέ σου τὸν λαὸν διὰ τῶν τοιούτων ἔργων, ¹⁹ ὅτι δεῖ τὸν δίκαιον εἶναι φιλόανθρωπον· καὶ εὐέλπιδας ἐποίησας τοὺς υἱούς σου, ὅτι δίδως ἐπὶ ἁμαρτήμασι μετανοίαν. Εἰ γὰρ ἐχθροὺς παίδων σου καὶ ὀφειλομένους ²⁰ θανάτῳ μετὰ τοσαύτης ἐτιμώρησας προσοχῆς καὶ δεήσεως, δοὺς χρόνους καὶ τόπον δι' ὧν ἀπαλλαγῶσι τῆς κακίας· μετὰ πόσης ἀκριβείας ἔκρινας τοὺς υἱούς σου ὧν τοῖς ²¹ πατράσιν ὅρκους καὶ συνθήκας ἔδωκας ἀγαθῶν ὑποσχέσεων; Ἡμᾶς οὖν παιδεύων, τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ἡμῶν ἐν ²² μυριότητι μαστιγοῖς, ἵνα σου τὴν ἀγαθότητα μεριμνῶμεν κρίνοντες, κρινόμενοι δὲ προσδοκῶμεν ἔλεος.

Ὅθεν καὶ τοὺς ἐν ἀφροσύνῃ ζωῆς βιώσαντας ἀδίκους, ²³ διὰ τῶν ἰδίων ἐβασάνισας βδελυγμάτων. Καὶ γὰρ τῶν ²⁴ πλάνης ὁδῶν μακρότερον ἐπλανήθησαν, θεοὺς ὑπολαμβάνοντες τὰ καὶ ἐν ζώοις τῶν ἐχθρῶν ἄτιμα, νηπιῶν δίκην ἀφρόνων ψευσθέντες. Διὰ τοῦτο ὡς παισὶν ἀλογίστοις ²⁵ τὴν κρίσιν εἰς ἐμπαιγμὸν ἔπεμψας. Οἱ δὲ παιγνίοις ²⁶ ἐπιτιμῆσεως μὴ ρουθετηθέντες, ἀξίαν Θεοῦ κρίσιν πειράσουσιν. Ἐφ' οἷς γὰρ αὐτοὶ πάσχοντες ἡγανάκτουν, ἐπὶ ²⁷ τούτοις οὓς ἐδόκουν θεοὺς, ἐν αὐτοῖς κολαζόμενοι, ἰδόντες ὃν πάλαι ἠρνούντο εἰδέναι, Θεὸν ἐπέγνωσαν ἀληθῆ· διὸ καὶ τὸ τέρμα τῆς καταδίκης ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἐπῆλθε.

Μάταιοι μὲν γὰρ πάντες ἄνθρωποι φύσει, οἷς παρῆν ¹³ Θεοῦ ἀγνωσία, καὶ ἐκ τῶν ὁρομένων ἀγαθῶν οὐκ ἴσχυσαν εἰδέναι τὸν ὄντα, οὔτε τοῖς ἔργοις προσχόντες ἐπέγνωσαν τὸν τεχνίτην. Ἀλλ' ἢ πῦρ, ἢ πνεῦμα, ἢ ταχινὸν αἶρα, ² ἢ κύκλον ἀστρῶν, ἢ βίαιον ὕδωρ, ἢ φωστήρας οὐρανοῦ, πρυτάνεις κόσμου θεοὺς ἐνόμισαν. Ὡς εἰ μὲν τῇ καλ- ³ λογῇ τερπόμενοι, θεοὺς ὑπελάμβανον, γνῶντες πόσῳ τούτων ὁ δεσπότης ἐστὶ βελτίων· ὁ γὰρ τοῦ κάλλους γενεσιάρχης ἔκτισεν αὐτά. Εἰ δὲ δύναμιν καὶ ἐνέργειαν ⁴ ἐκπλαγέντες, νοησάτωσαν ἀπ' αὐτῶν πόσῳ ὁ κατασκευάσας αὐτὰ δυνατότερός ἐστιν.

Ἐκ γὰρ μεγέθους καλλονῆς κτισμάτων ἀναλόγως ὁ ⁵ γενεσιουργὸς αὐτῶν θεωρεῖται. Ἀλλ' ὅμως ἐπὶ τούτοις ⁶ ἐστὶ μέμψις ὀλίγη, καὶ γὰρ αὐτοὶ τάχα πλανῶνται Θεὸν ζητοῦντες, καὶ θέλοντες εὐρεῖν. Ἐν γὰρ τοῖς ἔργοις ⁷ αὐτοῦ ἀναστρεφόμενοι διερευνῶσι, καὶ πείθονται τῇ ὁφεί, ὅτι καλὰ τὰ βλεπόμενα. Πάλιν δὲ οὐδ' αὐτοὶ συγγνωστοί. ⁸

- 9 Εἰ γὰρ τοσοῦτον ἴσχυσαν εἰδέναι, ἵνα δύνωνται στοχάσασθαι τὸν αἰῶνα, τὸν τούτων δεσπότην πῶς τάχιον οὐχ εὖρον;
- 10 Ταλαίπωροι δὲ καὶ ἐν νεκροῖς αἱ ἐλπίδες αὐτῶν, οἵτινες ἐκάλεσαν θεοὺς ἔργα χειρῶν ἀνθρώπων, χρυσὸν καὶ ἄργυρον τέχνης ἐμμελέτημα, καὶ ἀπεικάσματα ζῶν, ἢ λίθον
- 11 ἄχρηστον χειρὸς ἔργον ἀρχαίας. Εἰ δὲ καὶ τις ὑλοτῦμος τέκτων εὐκίνητον φυτὸν ἐκπρίσας, περιέξυσεν εὐμαθῶς πάντα τὸν φλοιὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ τεχνησέμενος εὐπρεπῶς
- 12 κατεσκευάσε χρήσιμον σκεῦος εἰς ὑπηρεσίαν ζωῆς, τὰ δὲ ἀποβλήματα τῆς ἐργασίας εἰς ἐτοιμασίαν τροφῆς ἀναλώσας ἐνεπλήσθη, τὸ δὲ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἀπόβλημα εἰς οὐθὲν εὐχρηστον, ξύλον σκολιὸν, καὶ ὅζοις συμπεφυκὸς, λαβὼν ἔγλυψεν ἐν ἐπιμελείᾳ ἀργίας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐμπειρίᾳ συνέσεως
- 14 ἐτύπωσεν αὐτὸ, ἀπείκασεν αὐτὸ εἰκόνι ἀνθρώπου, ἢ ζώῳ τινὶ εὐτελεῖ ὁμοίωσεν αὐτὸ, καταχρίσας μίλτῳ, καὶ φύκει ἐρυθρήνας χροᾶν αὐτοῦ, καὶ πᾶσαν κηλίδα τὴν ἐν αὐτῷ καταχρίσας. Καὶ ποιήσας αὐτῷ αὐτοῦ ἄξιον οἶκημα, ἐν τοίχῳ ἔθηκεν αὐτὸ ἀσφαλισάμενος σιδήρῳ· ἵνα μὲν οὖν μὴ καταπέσῃ, προενόησεν αὐτοῦ, εἰδὼς ὅτι ἀδυνατεῖ ἑαυτῷ βοηθῆσαι, καὶ γὰρ ἔστιν εἰκὼν, καὶ χρεῖαν ἔχει βοηθείας.
- 17 Περὶ δὲ κτημάτων καὶ γάμων αὐτοῦ καὶ τέκνων προσευχόμενος, οὐκ αἰσχύνεται τῷ ἀψύχῳ προσλαλῶν.
- 18 Καὶ περὶ μὲν ὑγείας τὸ ἀσθενὲς ἐπικαλεῖται, περὶ δὲ ζωῆς τὸν νεκρὸν ἀξιοῖ, περὶ δὲ ἐπικουρίας τὸν ἀπειρότατον ἰκετεύει, περὶ δὲ ὁδοιπορίας τὸ μὴδὲ βάσει χρῆσθαι δυνάμενον, περὶ δὲ πορισμοῦ καὶ ἐργασίας καὶ χειρῶν ἐπιτυχίας τὸ ἀδρανέστατον ταῖς χερσὶν εὐδράνειαν αἰτεῖται.
- 14 Πλοῦν τις πάλιν στελλόμενος, καὶ ἄγρια μέλλων διοδοεῖν κύματα, τοῦ φέροντος αὐτὸν πλοίου σαθρότερον ξύλον ἐπιβοᾷται. Ἐκεῖνο μὲν γὰρ ὄρεξις πορισμῶν ἐπενόησε, τεχνίτης δὲ σοφία κατεσκευάσεν· ἡ δὲ σῆ, Πάτερ, διακυβερνᾷ πρόνοια, ὅτι ἔδωκας καὶ ἐν θαλάσῃ ὁδὸν καὶ ἐν κύμασι τρίβον ἀσφαλῆ· δεικνὺς ὅτι δύνασαι ἐκ παντὸς σῶζειν, ἵνα καὶ ἄνευ τέχνης τις ἐπιβῇ. Θέλεις δὲ μὴ ἀργὰ εἶναι τὰ τῆς σοφίας σου ἔργα, διὰ τοῦτο καὶ ἐλαχίστῳ ξύλῳ πιστεύουσιν ἄνθρωποι ψυχὰς, καὶ διελθόντες κλύδωνα σχεδία διεσώθησαν.
- 6 Καὶ ἀρχῆς γὰρ ἀπολλυμένων ὑπερηφάνων γιγάντων, ἢ ἐλπίς τοῦ κόσμου ἐπὶ σχεδίας καταφυγούσα, ἀπέλιπεν
- 7 αἰῶνι σπέρμα γενέσεως τῇ σῇ κυβερνηθείσα χειρί. Εὐλόγηται γὰρ ξύλον δι' οὗ γίνεται δικαιοσύνη.
- 8 Τὸ χειροποίητον δὲ ἐπικατάρατον αὐτὸ, καὶ ὁ ποιήσας αὐτὸ, ὅτι ὁ μὲν εἰργάζετο, τὸ δὲ φθαρτὸν θεὸς ὠνόμασθη.
- 9 Ἐν ἴσῳ γὰρ μισητὰ Θεῷ καὶ ὁ ἀσεβὼν καὶ ἡ ἀσέβεια αὐτοῦ. Καὶ γὰρ τὸ πραχθὲν σὺν τῷ δράσαντι κολασθῆσεται. Διὰ τοῦτο καὶ ἐν εἰδώλοις ἐθνῶν ἐπισκοπῇ ἔσται, ὅτι ἐν κτίσματι Θεοῦ εἰς βδέλυγμα ἐγενήθησαν, καὶ εἰς σκάνδαλα ψυχῶν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ εἰς παγίδα ποσὶν ἀφρόνων.
- 12 Ἀρχὴ γὰρ πορνείας ἐπίνοια εἰδώλων, εὗρεσις δὲ αὐτῶν
- 13 φθορὰ ζωῆς. Οὐτε γὰρ ἦν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, οὐτε εἰς τὸν
- 14 αἰῶνα ἔσται. Κενοδοξία γὰρ ἀνθρώπων εἰσῆλθεν εἰς

pardoned. ⁹ For if they were able to know so much, that they could aim at the world; how did they not sooner find out the Lord thereof?

¹⁰ But miserable are they, and in dead things is their hope, who called them gods, which are the works of men's hands, gold and silver, to shew art in, and resemblances of beasts, or a stone good for nothing, the work of an ancient hand. ¹¹ Now a carpenter that felleth timber, after he hath sawn down a tree meet for the purpose, and taken off all the bark skilfully round about, and hath wrought it handsomely, and made a vessel thereof fit for the service of man's life; ¹² and after spending the refuse of his work to dress his meat, hath filled himself; ¹³ and taking the very refuse among those which served to no use, being a crooked piece of wood, and full of knots, hath carved it diligently when he had nothing else to do, and formed it by the skill of his understanding, and fashioned it to the image of a man; ¹⁴ or made it like some vile beast, laying it over with vermilion, and with paint colouring it red, and colouring every spot therein; ¹⁵ and when he had made a convenient room for it, set it in a wall, and made it fast with iron: ¹⁶ for he provided for it that it might not fall, knowing that it was unable to help itself; for it is an image, and hath need of help.

¹⁷ Then maketh he prayer for his goods, for his wife and children, and is not ashamed to speak to that which hath no life. ¹⁸ For health he calleth upon that which is weak: for life prayeth to that which is dead: for aid humbly beseecheth that which hath least means to help: and for a good journey he asketh of that which cannot set a foot forward: ¹⁹ and for gaining and getting, and for good success of his hands, asketh ability to do of him, that is most unable to do any thing.

Again, one preparing himself to sail, and about to pass through the raging waves, calleth upon a piece of wood more rotten than the vessel that carrieth him. ² For verily desire of gain devised that, and the workman built it by his skill. ³ But thy providence, O Father, governeth it: for thou hast made a way in the sea, and a safe path in the waves; ⁴ shewing that thou canst save from all danger: yea, though a man went to sea without art. ⁵ Nevertheless thou wouldest not that the works of thy wisdom should be idle, and therefore do men commit their lives to a small piece of wood, and passing the rough sea in a weak vessel are saved.

⁶ For in the old time also, when the proud giants perished, the hope of the world governed by thy hand escaped in a weak vessel, and left to all ages a seed of generation. ⁷ For blessed is the wood whereby righteousness cometh.

⁸ But that which is made with hands is cursed, as well it, as he that made it: he, because he made it: and it, because, being corruptible, it was called God. ⁹ For the ungodly and his ungodliness are both alike hateful unto God. ¹⁰ For that which is made shall be punished together with him that made it. ¹¹ Therefore even upon the idols of the Gentiles shall there be a visitation: because in the creature of God they are become an abomination, and stumblingblocks to the souls of men, and a snare to the feet of the unwise.

¹² For the devising of idols was the beginning of spiritual fornication, and the invention of them the corruption of life. ¹³ For neither were they from the beginning, neither shall they be for ever.

¹⁴ For by the vain glory of men they entered into

the world, and therefore shall they come shortly to an end. ¹⁵ For a father afflicted with untimely mourning, when he hath made an image of his child soon taken away, now honoured him as a god, which was then a dead man, and delivered to those that were under him ceremonies and sacrifices. ¹⁶ Thus in process of time an ungodly custom grown strong was kept as a law, and graven images were worshipped by the commandments of kings. ¹⁷ Whom men could not honour in presence, because they dwelt far off, they took the counterfeit of his visage from far, and made an express image of a king whom they honoured, to the end that by this their forwardness they might flatter him that was absent, as if he were present.

¹⁸ Also the singular diligence of the artificer did help to set forward the ignorant to more superstition. ¹⁹ For he, peradventure willing to please one in authority, forced all his skill to make the resemblance of the best fashion. ²⁰ And so the multitude, allured by the grace of the work, took him now for a god, which a little before was but honoured as a man. ²¹ And this was an occasion to deceive the world: for men, serving either calamity or tyranny, did ascribe unto stones and stocks the incommunicable name.

²² Moreover this was not enough for them, that they erred in the knowledge of God; but whereas they lived in the great war of ignorance, those so great plagues called they peace. ²³ For whilst they slew their children in sacrifices, or used secret ceremonies, or made revellings of strange rites; ²⁴ they kept neither lives nor marriages any longer undefiled: but either one slew another traiterously or grieved him by adultery. ²⁵ So that there reigned in all men without exception, blood, manslaughter, theft, and dissimulation, corruption, unfaithfulness, tumults, perjury, ²⁶ disquieting of good men, forgetfulness of good turns, defiling of souls, changing of kind, disorder in marriages, adultery, and shameless uncleanness. ²⁷ For the worshipping of idols not to be named is the beginning, the cause, and the end, of all evil. ²⁸ For either they are mad when they be merry, or prophesy lies, or live unjustly, or else lightly forswear themselves. ²⁹ For inasmuch as their trust is in idols which have no life, though they swear falsely, yet they look not to be hurt.

³⁰ Howbeit for both causes shall they be justly punished: both because they thought not well of God, giving heed unto idols, and also unjustly swore in deceit, despising holiness. ³¹ For it is not the power of them by whom they swear: but it is the just vengeance of sinners, that punisheth always the offence of the ungodly.

But thou, our God, art gracious and true, long-suffering, and in mercy ordering all things. ² For if we sin, we are thine, knowing thy power: but we will not sin, knowing that we are counted thine. ³ For to know thee is perfect righteousness: yea, to know thy power is the root of immortality. ⁴ For neither did the mischievous invention of men deceive us, nor an image spotted with divers colours, the painter's fruitless labour; ⁵ the sight whereof enticeth fools to lust after it, and so they desire the form of a dead image, that hath no breath.

⁶ Both they that make them, they that desire them, and they that worship them, are lovers of evil things, and are worthy to have such things to trust upon. ⁷ For the potter, tempering soft earth, fashioneth every vessel with much labour for our service: yea, of the same clay he maketh

κόσμον, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο σύντομον αὐτῶν τέλος ἐπενοήθη. Ἀὐρὼ γὰρ πένθει τρυχόμενος πατήρ, τοῦ ταχέως ἀφαιρε- 15
θέντος τέκνου εἰκόνα ποιήσας, τὸν τότε νεκρὸν ἄνθρωπον, νῦν ὡς θεὸν ἐτίμησε, καὶ παρέδωκε τοῖς ὑποχειρίοις μυστή-
ρια καὶ τελετάς. Εἴτα ἐν χρόνῳ κρατυνθέν τὸ ἀσεβές 16
ἔθος ὡς νόμος ἐφυλάχθη, καὶ τυράννων ἐπιταγαῖς ἐθρη-
σκεῦτο τὰ γλυπτὰ· οὓς ἐν ᾧψι μὴ δυνάμενοι τιμᾶν ἄνθρω- 17
ποι διὰ τὸ μακρὰν οἰκεῖν, τὴν πόρρωθεν ᾧψιν ἀνατυπωσά-
μενοι, ἐμφανῇ εἰκόνα τοῦ τιμωμένου βασιλέως ἐποίησαν,
ἵνα τὸν ἀπόντα ὡς παρόντα κολακεύωσι διὰ τῆς σπουδῆς.

Εἰς ἐπίτασιν δὲ θρησκείας καὶ τοὺς ἀγνοοῦντας ἢ τοῦ 18
τεχνίτου προετρέψατο φιλοτιμία. Ὁ μὲν γὰρ τάχα τῷ 19
κρατοῦντι βουλόμενος ἀρέσαι, ἐξεβιάσατο τῇ τέχνῃ τὴν
ὁμοιότητα ἐπὶ τὸ κάλλιον. Τὸ δὲ πλῆθος ἐφέλκόμενον 20
διὰ τὸ εὖχαρι τῆς ἐργασίας, τὸν πρὸ ὀλίγου τιμηθέντα
ἄνθρωπον, νῦν σέβασμα ἐλογίσαντο. Καὶ τοῦτο ἐγένετο 21
τῷ βίῳ εἰς ἔνδρον, ὅτι ἡ συμφορὰ ἢ τυραννίδι δουλεύ-
σαντες ἄνθρωποι, τὸ ἀκοινωνήτον ὄνομα λίθοις καὶ ξύλοις
περιέθεσαν.

Εἰτ' οὐκ ἤρκεσε τὸ πλανᾶσθαι περὶ τὴν τοῦ Θεοῦ 22
γνώσιν, ἀλλὰ καὶ μεγάλῳ ζῶντες ἀγνοίας πολέμῳ, τὰ
τοσαῦτα κακὰ εἰρήνην προσαγορεύουσιν. Ἡ γὰρ τεκνο- 23
φόνους τελετάς, ἢ κρύφια μυστήρια, ἢ ἐμμανεῖς ἐξ ἄλλων
θεσμῶν κώμους ἄγοντες, οὔτε βίους οὔτε γάμους καθαρούς 24
ἔτι φυλάσσουσιν, ἕτερος δ' ἕτερον ἢ λοχῶν ἀναιρεῖ, ἢ
νοθεύων ὁδυνᾷ. Πάντας δ' ἐπιμῖξ' ἔχει αἷμα καὶ φόνος, 25
κλοπὴ καὶ δόλος, φθορὰ, ἀπιστία, ταραχὴ, ἐπιπορκία,
θόρυβος ἀγαθῶν, χάριτος ἀμνησία, ψυχῶν μiasmὸς, γενέ- 26
σεως ἐναλλαγὴ, γάμων ἀταξία, μοιχεία, καὶ ἀσελγεία.
Ἡ γὰρ τῶν ἀνωνύμων εἰδώλων θρησκεία παντὸς ἀρχὴ 27
κακοῦ καὶ αἰτία καὶ πέρας ἐστίν. Ἡ γὰρ εὐφραϊνόμενοι 28
μεμῆνασιν, ἢ προφητεύουσι ψευδῇ, ἢ ζῶσιν ἀδίκως, ἢ
ἐπιπορκοῦσι ταχέως. Ἀψύχοις γὰρ πεποιθότες εἰδώλοις, 29
κακῶς ὁμόσαντες, ἀδικηθῆναι οὐ προσδέχονται.

Ἀμφότερα δὲ αὐτοὺς μετελευσεται τὰ δίκαια, ὅτι 30
κακῶς ἐφρόνησαν περὶ Θεοῦ προσχόντες εἰδώλοις, καὶ
ἀδίκως ὤμοσαν ἐν δόλῳ καταφρονήσαντες ὁσιότητος. Οὐ 31
γὰρ ἢ τῶν ὀμνυομένων δύναμις, ἀλλ' ἢ τῶν ἁμαρτανόντων
δίκη ἐπεξέρχεται αἰεὶ τὴν τῶν ἀδίκων παράβασιν.

Σὺ δὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν χρηστὸς καὶ ἀληθὴς, μακρόθυμος 15
καὶ ἐν ἐλέει διοικῶν τὰ πάντα. Καὶ γὰρ ἐὰν ἁμαρτωμεν, 2
σοὶ ἐσμεν, εἰδότες σου τὸ κράτος· οὐχ ἁμαρτησόμεθα
δὲ, εἰδότες ὅτι σοὶ λελογίσμεθα. Τὸ γὰρ ἐπίστασθαι 3
σε ὁλόκληρος δικαιοσύνη, καὶ εἰδέναι τὸ κράτος σου ρίζα
ἀθανασίας. Οὔτε γὰρ ἐπλάνησεν ἡμᾶς ἀνθρώπων κακό- 4
τεχνος ἐπίνοια, οὐδὲ σκιαγράφων πόνος ἄκαρπος, εἶδος
σπιλωθέν χρώμασι διηλλαγμένοις· ὦν ᾧψις ἄφροσιν εἰς 5
ὄνειδος ἔρχεται, ποθεῖ, τε νεκρᾶς εἰκόνος εἶδος ἄπνουν.

Κακῶν ἐρασταὶ ἀξιοί τε τοιούτων ἐλπίδων, καὶ οἱ 6
δρῶντες, καὶ οἱ ποθοῦντες, καὶ οἱ σεβόμενοι. Καὶ γὰρ 7
κεραμεὺς ἀπαλὴν γῆν θλίβων ἐπίμοχθον, πλάσσει πρὸς
ὑπηρεσίαν ἡμῶν ἕκαστον, ἀλλ' ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοῦ πηλοῦ ἀνε-

- πλάσατο τά τε τῶν καθαρῶν ἔργων δοῦλα σκεύη, τά τε ἐναντία, πάνθ' ὁμοίως· τούτων δὲ ἑκατέρου τίς ἐκάστου ἔστιν ἡ χρῆσις, κριτὴς ὁ πηλουργός. Καὶ κακόμοχθος θεὸν μάταιον ἐκ τοῦ αὐτοῦ πλάσσει πηλοῦ, ὃς πρὸ μικροῦ ἐκ γῆς γεννηθεὶς μετ' ὀλίγον πορεύεται ἐξ ἧς ἐλήφθη, τὸ τῆς ψυχῆς ἀπαιτηθεὶς χρέος.
- 9 Ἀλλ' ἔστιν αὐτῷ φροντὶς οὐχ ὅτι μέλλει κάμνειν, οὐδ' ὅτι βραχυτελὴ βίον ἔχει, ἀλλ' ἀντερίδεται μὲν χρυσοουργοῖς καὶ ἀργυροχοοῖς, χαλκοπλάστας τε μιμνῆσθαι, καὶ δόξαν ἡγεῖται ὅτι κίβδηλα πλάσσει. Σποδὸς ἡ καρδιά αὐτοῦ, καὶ γῆς εὐτελεστέρα ἢ ἐλπίς αὐτοῦ, πηλοῦ ἡ ἀτιμότερος ὁ βίος αὐτοῦ· ὅτι ἡγγόνησε τὸν πλάσαντα αὐτὸν, καὶ τὸν ἐμπνεύσαντα αὐτῷ ψυχὴν ἐνεργοῦσαν, καὶ ἐμφυσήσαντα πνεῦμα ζωτικόν. Ἀλλ' ἐλογίσαντο παίγνιον εἶναι τὴν ζωὴν ἡμῶν, καὶ τὸν βίον πανευρισμὸν ἐπεκερδῆ· δεῖν γὰρ φησὶν ὅθεν δὴ καὶ ἐκ κακοῦ πορίζειν. Οὗτος γὰρ παρὰ πάντας οἶδεν ὅτι ἀμαρτάνει, ὕλης γεώδους εὐθραυστα σκεύη καὶ γλυπτὰ δημιουργῶν.
- 14 Πάντες δ' ἀφρονέστατοι καὶ τάλανες ὑπὲρ ψυχὴν νηπίου, οἱ ἐχθροὶ τοῦ λαοῦ σου καταδυναστεύσαντες αὐτόν. Ὅτι καὶ πάντα εἶδωλα τῶν ἐθνῶν ἐλογίσαντο θεοὺς, οἷς οὔτε ὀμμάτων χρῆσις εἰς ὄρασιν, οὔτε ῥῖνες εἰς συνολκὴν ἀέρος, οὔτε ὦτα ἀκούειν, οὔτε δάκτυλοι χειρῶν εἰς ψηλάφησιν, καὶ οἱ πόδες αὐτῶν ἀργοὶ πρὸς ἐπίβασιν.
- 16 Ἄνθρωπος γὰρ ἐποίησεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα δεδανεισμένος ἐπλάσεν αὐτούς· οὐδεὶς γὰρ αὐτῷ ὅμοιον ἄνθρωπος ἰσχύει πλάσαι θεόν· θνητὸς δὲ ὢν νεκρὸν ἐργάζεται χειρὶν ἀνόμοις· κρείττων γὰρ ἔστι τῶν σεβασμάτων αὐτοῦ, ὢν αὐτὸς μὲν ἔζησεν, ἐκεῖνα δὲ οὐδέποτε. Καὶ τὰ ζῶα δὲ τὰ ἐχθίστα σέβονται, ἄνοια γὰρ συγκρινόμενα τῶν ἄλλων ἐστὶ χείρονα. Οὐδ' ὅσον ἐπιποθῆσαι ὡς ἐν ζώων ὅψει καλὰ τυγχάνει, ἐκπέφενγε δὲ καὶ τὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἔπαινον καὶ τὴν εὐλογίαν αὐτοῦ.
- 16 Διὰ τοῦτο δι' ὁμοίων ἐκολάσθησαν ἀξίως, καὶ διὰ 2 πλήθους κνωδάλον ἐβασανίσθησαν. Ἀνθ' ἧς κολάσεως εὐεργετήσας τὸν λαόν σου, εἰς ἐπιθυμίαν ὀρέξεως ξένην 3 γεύσιν, τροφὴν ἡτοίμασας ὀρυγομήτραν, ἵνα ἐκεῖνοι μὲν ἐπιθυμοῦντες τροφὴν, διὰ τὴν εἰδέχθειαν τῶν ἐπαπισταλμένων καὶ τὴν ἀναγκαίαν ὀρεξίν ἀποστρέφονται, αὐτοὶ δὲ ἐπ' ὀλίγον ἐνδεεῖς γενομένοι καὶ ξένης μετόσχουσι 4 γεύσεως. Ἐδεῖ γὰρ ἐκεῖνοις μὲν ἀπαραίτητον ἐνδεῖαν ἐπελθεῖν τυραννοῦσι, τούτοις δὲ μόνον δειχθῆναι πῶς οἱ 5 ἐχθροὶ αὐτῶν ἐβασανίζοντο. Καὶ γὰρ ὅτε αὐτοῖς δεινὸς ἐπῆλθε θηρίων θυμὸς, δῆγμασί τε σκολιῶν διεφθείροντο ὄφειν, οὐ μέχρι τέλους ἔμεινεν ἡ ὀργή σου.
- 6 Εἰς νουθεσίαν δὲ πρὸς ὀλίγον ἐταράχθησαν, σύμβολον 7 ἔχοντες σωτηρίας, εἰς ἀνάμνησιν ἐντολῆς νόμου σου. Ὁ γὰρ ἐπιστραφεὶς οὐ διὰ τὸ θεωρούμενον ἐσώζετο, ἀλλὰ 8 διὰ σὲ τὸν πάντων σωτῆρα. Καὶ ἐν τούτῳ δὲ ἐπεισας τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ἡμῶν, ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ ῥυόμενος ἐκ παντὸς κακοῦ.
- 9 Οὓς μὲν γὰρ ἀκρίδων καὶ μυιῶν ἀπέκτεινε δῆγματα, καὶ οὐχ εὐρέθη ἱάμα τῇ ψυχῇ αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἄξιοι ἦσαν ὑπὸ

both the vessels that serve for clean uses, and likewise also all such as serve to the contrary: but what is the use of either sort, the potter himself is the judge. ⁸ And employing his labours lewdly, he maketh a vain god of the same clay, even he which a little before was made of earth himself, and within a little while after returneth to the same, out of the which he was taken, when his life which was lent him shall be demanded.

⁹ Notwithstanding his care is, not that he shall have much labour, nor that his life is short: but striveth to excel goldsmiths and silversmiths, and endeavoureth to do like the workers in brass, and counteth it his glory to make counterfeit things. ¹⁰ His heart is ashes, his hope is more vile than earth, and his life of less value than clay: ¹¹ forasmuch as he knew not his Maker, and him that inspired into him an active soul, and breathed in a living spirit. ¹² But they counted our life a pastime, and our time here a market for gain: for, say they, we must be getting every way, though it be by evil means. ¹³ For this man, that of earthly matter maketh brittle vessels and graven images, knoweth himself to offend above all others.

¹⁴ And all the enemies of thy people, that hold them in subjection, are most foolish, and are more miserable than very babes. ¹⁵ For they counted all the idols of the heathen to be gods: which neither have the use of eyes to see, nor noses to draw breath, nor ears to hear, nor fingers of hands to handle; and as for their feet, they are slow to go. ¹⁶ For man made them, and he that borrowed his own spirit fashioned them: but no man can make a god like unto himself. ¹⁷ For being mortal, he worketh a dead thing with wicked hands: for he himself is better than the things which he worshippeth: whereas *he* lived once, but they never. ¹⁸ Yea, they worshipped those beasts also that are most hateful: for being compared together, some are worse than others. ¹⁹ Neither are they beautiful, so much as to be desired in respect of beasts: but they went without the praise of God and his blessing.

Therefore by the like were they punished worthily, and by the multitude of beasts tormented. ² Instead of which punishment, dealing graciously with thine own people, thou preparedst for them meat of a strange taste, even quails to stir up their appetite: ³ to the end that they, desiring food, might for the ugly sight of the beasts sent among them lothe even that, which they must needs desire; but these, suffering penury for a short space, might be made partakers of a strange taste. ⁴ For it was requisite, that upon them exercising tyranny should come penury, which they could not avoid: but to these it should only be shewed how their enemies were tormented. ⁵ For when the horrible fierceness of beasts came upon these, and they perished with the stings of crooked serpents, thy wrath endured not for ever:

⁶ But they were troubled for a small season, that they might be admonished, having a sign of salvation, to put them in remembrance of the commandment of thy law. ⁷ For he that turned himself toward it was not saved by the thing that he saw, but by thee, that art the Saviour of all. ⁸ And in this thou madest thine enemies confess, that it is thou who deliverest from all evil: ⁹ for them the bitings of grasshoppers and flies killed, neither was there found any remedy for their life: for they were worthy to be punished by such.

¹⁰ But thy sons not the very teeth of venomous dragons overcame: for thy mercy was by them, and healed them. ¹¹ For they were pricked, that they should remember thy words; and were quickly saved, that not falling into deep forgetfulness, they might be continually mindful of thy goodness.

¹² For it was neither herb, nor mollifying plaister, that restored them to health: but thy word, O Lord, which healeth all things. ¹³ For thou hast power of life and death: thou leadest to the gates of hell, and bringest up again. ¹⁴ A man indeed killeth through his malice: and the spirit, when it is gone forth, returneth not; neither the soul received up cometh again. ¹⁵ But it is not possible to escape thine hand.

¹⁶ For the ungodly, that denied to know thee, were scourged by the strength of thine arm: with strange rains, hails, and showers, were they persecuted, that they could not avoid, and through fire were they consumed.

¹⁷ For, which is most to be wondered at, the fire had more force in the water, that quencheth all things: for the world fighteth for the righteous. ¹⁸ For sometime the flame was mitigated, that it might not burn up the beasts that were sent against the ungodly; but themselves might see and perceive that they were persecuted with the judgment of God. ¹⁹ And at another time it burneth even in the midst of water above the power of fire, that it might destroy the fruits of an unjust land. ²⁰ Instead whereof thou feddest thine own people with angels' food, and didst send them from heaven bread prepared without their labour, able to content every man's delight, and agreeing to every taste. ²¹ For thy sustenance declared thy sweetness unto thy children, and serving to the appetite of the eater, tempered itself to every man's liking. ²² But snow and ice endured the fire, and melted not, that they might know that fire burning in the hail, and sparkling in the rain, did destroy the fruits of the enemies.

²³ But this again did even forget his own strength, that the righteous might be nourished. ²⁴ For the creature that serveth thee, who art the Maker, increaseth his strength against the unrighteous for their punishment, and abateth his strength for the benefit of such as put their trust in thee.

²⁵ Therefore even then was it altered into all fashions, and was obedient to thy grace, that nourisheth all things, according to the desire of them that had need: ²⁶ that thy children, O Lord, whom thou lovest, might know, that it is not the growing of fruits that nourisheth man: but that it is thy word, which preserveth them that put their trust in thee.

²⁷ For that which was not destroyed of the fire, being warmed with a little sunbeam, soon melted away: ²⁸ that it might be known, that we must prevent the sun to give thee thanks, and at the dayspring pray unto thee. ²⁹ For the hope of the unthankful shall melt away as the winter's hoar frost, and shall run away as unprofitable water.

For great are thy judgments, and cannot be expressed: therefore unnurtured souls have erred. ² For when unrighteous men thought to oppress the holy nation; they being shut up in their houses, the prisoners of darkness, and fettered with the bonds of a long night, lay [there] exiled from

τοιούτων κολασθῆναι. Τοὺς δὲ υἱούς σου οὐδὲ ἰοβόλῳ 10
δρακόντων ἐνίκησαν ὀδόντες, τὸ ἔλεος γὰρ σου ἀντιπαρῆλθε
καὶ ἰάσατο αὐτούς. Εἰς γὰρ ὑπόμνησιν τῶν λογίων σου 11
ἐνεκεντρίζοντο, καὶ ὀξέως διεσώζοντο, ἵνα μὴ εἰς βαθεῖαν
ἐμπεσόντες λήθην, ἀπερίσπαστοι γένωνται τῆς σῆς
εὐεργεσίας.

Καὶ γὰρ οὔτε βοτάνη οὔτε μάλαγμα ἐθεράπευσεν 12
αὐτούς, ἀλλὰ ὁ σὸς Κύριε λόγος ὁ πάντα ἰώμενος. Σὺ 13
γὰρ ζωῆς καὶ θανάτου ἐξουσίαν ἔχεις, καὶ κατάγεις εἰς
πύλας ᾄδου καὶ ἀνάγεις. Ἄνθρωπος δὲ ἀποκτείνει μὲν 14
τῇ κακίᾳ αὐτοῦ, ἐξελθὼν δὲ πνεῦμα οὐκ ἀναστρέφει, οὐδὲ
ἀναλύνει ψυχὴν παραληφθεῖσαν. Τὴν δὲ σὴν χεῖρα φυγεῖν 15
ἀδύνατόν ἐστιν.

Ἀρνούνται γὰρ σε εἶδέναι ἀσεβεῖς, ἐν ἰσχύϊ βραχίονός 16
σου ἐμαστιγώθησαν, ξένοις ὑετοῖς καὶ χαλάζαις καὶ
ὄμβροις διωκόμενοι ἀπαραιτήτοις, καὶ πυρὶ κατανα-
λισκόμενοι.

Τὸ γὰρ παραδοξότατον, ἐν τῷ πάντα σβεννύντι ὕδατι 17
πλεῖον ἐνῆργει τὸ πῦρ· ὑπέρμαχος γὰρ ὁ κόσμος ἐστὶ
δικαίων. Ποτὲ μὲν γὰρ ἡμεροῦτο φλόξ, ἵνα μὴ κατα- 18
φλέξῃ τὰ ἐπ' ἀσεβεῖς ἀπεσταλμένα ζῶα, ἀλλ' αὐτοὶ
βλέποντες ἴδωσιν, ὅτι Θεοῦ κρίσει ἐλαύνονται. Ποτὲ δὲ 19
καὶ μεταξὺ ὕδατος ὑπὲρ τὴν πυρὸς δύναμιν φλέγει, ἵνα
ἀδίκου γῆς γεννήματα διαφθείρῃ. Ἀνθ' ὧν ἀγγέλων 20
τροφὴν ἐψώμισας τὸ λαόν σου, καὶ ἔτοιμον ἄρτον
αὐτοῖς ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ ἔπεμψας ἀκοπιάτως, πᾶσαν ἡδονὴν
ἰσχύοντα καὶ πρὸς πᾶσαν ἀρμόνιον γεῦσιν. Ἡ μὲν γὰρ 21
ὑπόστασις σου τὴν σὴν γλυκύτητα πρὸς τέκνα ἐνεφάνισε,
τῇ δὲ τοῦ προσφερομένου ἐπιθυμία ὑπηρετῶν, πρὸς ὃ τις
ἐβούλετο μετεκρινᾶτο. Χιὼν δὲ καὶ κρυσταλλος ὑπέμεινε 22
πῦρ, καὶ οὐκ ἐτήκετο, ἵνα γνῶσιν ὅτι τοὺς τῶν ἐχθρῶν
καρποὺς κατέφθειρε πῦρ φλεγόμενον, ἐν τῇ χαλάξῃ καὶ
ἐν τοῖς ὑετοῖς διαστράπτει.

Τοῦτο πάλιν δ' ἵνα τραφῶσι δίκαιοι, καὶ τῆς ἰδίας 23
ἐπιλελησθαι δυνάμεως. Ἡ γὰρ κτίσις σοι τῷ ποιήσαντι 24
ὑπηρετοῦσα, ἐπιτείνεται εἰς κόλασιν κατὰ τῶν ἀδίκων,
καὶ ἀνίεται εἰς εὐεργεσίαν ὑπὲρ τῶν εἰς σὲ πεποιθότων.

Διὰ τοῦτο καὶ τότε εἰς πάντα μεταλλενομένη, τῇ παν- 25
τοτρόφῳ σου δωρεᾷ ὑπηρετεῖ, πρὸς τὴν τῶν δεομένων
θέλησιν· ἵνα μάθωσιν οἱ υἱοὶ σου, οὐς ἡγάπησας, Κύριε, 26
ὅτι οὐχ αἱ γενέσεις τῶν καρπῶν τρέφουσιν ἄνθρωπον,
ἀλλὰ τὸ ῥῆμά σου τοὺς σοι πιστεύοντας διατηρεῖ.

Τὸ γὰρ ὑπὸ πυρὸς μὴ φθειρόμενον, ἀπλῶς ὑπὸ 27
βραχείας ἀκτίνος ἡλίου θερμαινόμενον ἐτήκετο· ὅπως 28
γνωστὸν ἦ, ὅτι δεῖ φθάνειν τὸν ἥλιον ἐπ' εὐχαριστίαν
σου, καὶ πρὸς ἀνατολὴν φωτὸς ἐντυγχάνειν σοι. Ἀχαρίσ- 29
του γὰρ ἐλπίς ὥς χειμέριος πάχνη τακίησεται, καὶ
ῥυήσεται ὥς ὕδωρ ἄχρηστον.

Μεγάλαι γὰρ σου αἱ κρίσεις καὶ δυσδιήγητοι· διὰ 17
τοῦτο ἀπαίδευτοι ψυχαὶ ἐπλανήθησαν. Ὑπειληφότες 2
γὰρ καταδυναστεύειν ἔθνος ἅγιον ἄνομοι, δέσμιοι σκότους
καὶ μακρὰς πεδῆται νυκτὸς, κατακλεισθέντες ὀρόφοις,

- 3 φυγάδες τῆς αἰωνίου προνοίας ἔκειντο. Λανθάνειν γὰρ νομίζοντες ἐπὶ κρυφαίοις ἁμαρτήμασιν, ἀφεγγεῖ λήθης παρακαλύμματι ἐσκορπίσθησαν, θαμβούμενοι δεινῶς καὶ
4 ἰνδάλμασιν ἐκταρασσόμενοι. Οὐδὲ γὰρ ὁ κατέχων αὐτοὺς μυχὸς ἀφόβως διεφύλασεν, ἥχοι δὲ καταράσσοντες αὐτοὺς περιεκόμπουν, καὶ φάσματα ἀμειδῆτοις κατηφῇ προσώποις ἐνεφανίζετο.
- 5 Καὶ πυρὸς μὲν οὐδεμία βία κατίσχυε φωτίζειν, οὔτε ἄστρον ἐκλαμπροὶ φλόγες κατανάζειν ὑπέμενον τὴν
6 στυγνὴν ἐκείνην νύκτα. Διεφαίνετο δ' αὐτοῖς μόνον αὐτομάτῃ πυρὰ φόβου πλήρης, ἐκδειματούμενοι δὲ τῆς μὴ θεωρουμένης ἐκείνης ὄψεως, ἡγοῦντο χεῖρω τὰ βλεπόμενα. Μαγικῆς δὲ ἐμπαίγματα κατέκειτο τέχνης, καὶ
8 τῆς ἐπὶ φρονήσει ἀλαζονείας ἔλεγχος ἐφύβριστος. Οἱ γὰρ ὑπισχνούμενοι δείματα καὶ ταραχὰς ἀπελαύνειν ψυχῆς νοσοῦσης, οὗτοι καταγέλαστον εὐλάβειαν ἐνόσουν.
- 9 Καὶ γὰρ εἰ μηδὲν αὐτοὺς ταραχῶδες ἐφόβει, κνωδάλων παρόδοις καὶ ἐρπετῶν συριγμοῖς ἐκσεσοβημένοι, 10 διώλλυντο ἔντρομοι καὶ τὸν μηδαμόθεν φευκτὸν ἀέρα προσιδεῖν ἀρνούμενοι.
- 11 Δεῖλὸν γὰρ ἰδίως πονηρία μαρτυρεῖ καταδικαζομένη, αἰεὶ δὲ προσεΐληφε τὰ χαλεπὰ συνεχόμενη τῇ συνειδήσει.
- 12 Οὐθὲν γάρ ἐστι φόβος, εἰ μὴ προδοσία τῶν ἀπὸ λογισμοῦ βοηθημάτων. Ἐνδοθεν δὲ οὐσα ἥττων ἢ προσδοκία, πλείονα λογίζεται τὴν ἄγνοιαν τῆς παρεχούσης τὴν βάσανον αἰτίας. Οἱ δὲ τὴν ἀδύνατον ὄντως
14 νύκτα καὶ ἐξ ἀδύνατου ἄδου μυχῶν ἐπελθοῦσαν, τὸν αὐτὸν ὕπνον κοιμώμενοι, τὰ μὲν τέρασιν ἡλαύνοντο φαντασμάτων, τὰ δὲ τῆς ψυχῆς παρελύντο προδοσίᾳ· αἰφνίδιος
16 γὰρ αὐτοῖς καὶ ἀπροσδόκητος φόβος ἐπῆλθεν. Εἴθ' οὕτως, ὃς δὴ ποτ' οὖν ἦν ἐκεῖ καταπίπτων, ἐφρουρεῖτο
17 εἰς τὴν ἀσίδηρον εἰρκτὴν κατακλεισθεῖς. Εἴτε γὰρ γεωργὸς ἦν τις, ἢ ποιμὴν, ἢ τῶν κατ' ἐρημίαν ἐργάτης μόχθων, προληφθεὶς τὴν δυσάλυκτον ἔμενεν ἀνάγκην· μῖα γὰρ ἀλύσει σκότους πάντες ἐδέθησαν.
- 18 Εἴτε πνεῦμα συρίζον, ἢ περὶ ἀμφιλαφεῖς κλάδους ὀρνέων ἦχος εὐμελῆς, ἢ ῥυθμὸς ὕδατος πορευομένου
19 βία, ἢ κτύπος ἀπηνῆς καταρρίπτομένων πετρῶν, ἢ σκιρτώντων ζώων δρόμος ἀθεώρητος, ἢ ὠρνομένων ἀπηνεστάτων θηρίων φωνή, ἢ ἀντανακλωμένη ἐκ κοιλοτάτων ὀρέων ἡχώ, παρέλυσεν αὐτοὺς ἐκφοβοῦντα. Ὅλος γὰρ
20 ὁ κόσμος λαμπρῶ κατελάμπετο φωτὶ, καὶ ἀνεμποδίστοις
21 συνείχετο ἔργοις. Μόνοις δὲ ἐκείνοις ἐπετέτατο βαρεῖα νύξ, εἰκὼν τοῦ μέλλοντος αὐτοὺς διαδέχσθαι σκότους, ἑαυτοῖς δὲ ἦσαν βαρύτεροι σκότους.
- 18 Τοῖς δὲ ὁσίοις σου μέγιστον ἦν φῶς, ὧν φωνὴν μὲν ἀκούοντες, μορφήν δὲ οὐχ ὀρῶντες, ὅτι μὲν οὖν κἀκείνοι
2 ἐπεπόνθεισαν, ἐμακάριζον, ὅτι δὲ οὐ βλάπτουσι προηδικημένοι, εὐχαριστοῦσι, καὶ τοῦ διενεχθῆναι χάριν
3 ἐδέοντο. Ἀνθ' ὧν πυριφλεγῇ στύλον, ὁδηγὸν μὲν ἀγνώστου ὁδοιπορίας, ἥλιον δὲ ἀβλαβῇ φιλοτίμου ξενι-
4 τείας παρέσχες. Ἀξιοὶ μὲν γὰρ ἐκείνοι στερηθῆναι

the eternal providence. ³ For while they supposed to lie hid in their secret sins, they were scattered under a dark veil of forgetfulness, being horribly astonished, and troubled with [strange] apparitions. ⁴ For neither might the corner that held them keep them from fear: but noises [as of waters] falling down sounded about them, and sad visions appeared unto them with heavy countenances.

⁵ No power of the fire might give them light: neither could the bright flames of the stars endure to lighten that horrible night. ⁶ Only there appeared unto them a fire kindled of itself, very dreadful: for being much terrified, they thought the things which they saw to be worse than the sight they saw not. ⁷ As for the illusions of art magic, they were put down, and their vaunting in wisdom was reprov'd with disgrace. ⁸ For they, that promised to drive away terrors and troubles from a sick soul, were sick themselves of fear, worthy to be laughed at.

⁹ For though no terrible thing did fear them; yet being scared with beasts that passed by, and hissing of serpents, ¹⁰ they died for fear, denying that they saw the air, which could of no side be avoided.

¹¹ For wickedness, condemned by her own witness, is very timorous, and being pressed with conscience, always forecasteth grievous things. ¹² For fear is nothing else but a betraying of the succours which reason offereth. ¹³ And the expectation from within, being less, counteth the ignorance more than the cause which bringeth the torment. ¹⁴ But they sleeping the same sleep that night, which was indeed intolerable, and which came upon them out of the bottoms of inevitable hell, ¹⁵ were partly vexed with monstrous apparitions, and partly fainted, their heart failing them: for a sudden fear, and not looked for, came upon them. ¹⁶ So then whosoever there fell down was straitly kept, shut up in a prison without iron bars. ¹⁷ For whether he were husbandman, or shepherd, or a labourer in the field, he was overtaken, and endured that necessity, which could not be avoided: for they were all bound with one chain of darkness.

¹⁸ Whether it were a whistling wind, or a melodious noise of birds among the spreading branches, or a pleasing fall of water running violently, ¹⁹ or a terrible sound of stones cast down, or a running that could not be seen of skipping beasts, or a roaring voice of most savage wild beasts, or a rebounding echo from the hollow mountains: these things made them to swoon for fear. ²⁰ For the whole world shined with clear light, and none were hindered in their labour: ²¹ over them only was spread a heavy night, an image of that darkness which should afterward receive them: but yet were they unto themselves more grievous than the darkness.

Nevertheless thy saints had a very great light, whose voice they hearing, and not seeing their shape, because they also had not suffered the same things, they counted them happy. ² But for that they did not hurt them *now*, of whom they had been wronged before, they thanked them, and besought them pardon for that they had been enemies. ³ Instead whereof thou gavest them a burning pillar of fire, both to be a guide of the unknown journey, and a harmless sun to entertain them honourably. ⁴ For they were worthy to

be deprived of light, and imprisoned in darkness, who had kept thy sons shut up, by whom the uncorrupt light of the law was to be given unto the world.

⁵ And when they had determined to slay the babes of the saints, one child being cast forth, and saved, to reprove them, thou tookest away the multitude of their children, and destroyedst them all together in a mighty water. ⁶ Of that night were our fathers certified afore, that assuredly knowing unto what oaths they had given credence they might afterwards be of good cheer.

⁷ So of thy people was accepted both the salvation of the righteous, and destruction of the enemies. ⁸ For wherewith thou didst punish our adversaries, by the same thou didst glorify us, whom thou hadst called. ⁹ For the righteous children of good men did sacrifice secretly, and with one consent made a holy law, that the saints should be like partakers of the same good and evil, the fathers now singing out the songs of praise.

¹⁰ But on the other side there sounded an ill according cry of the enemies, and a lamentable noise was carried abroad for children that were bewailed. ¹¹ The master and the servant were punished after one manner; and like as the king, so suffered the common person.

¹² So they all together had innumerable dead with one kind of death; neither were the living sufficient to bury them: for in one moment the noblest offspring of them was destroyed. ¹³ For whereas they would not believe any thing by reason of the enchantments; upon the destruction of the firstborn, they acknowledged this people to be the sons of God. ¹⁴ For while all things were in quiet silence, and that night was in the midst of her swift course, ¹⁵ thine Almighty word leaped from heaven out of thy royal throne, as a fierce man of war into the midst of a land of destruction, ¹⁶ and brought thine unfeigned commandment as a sharp sword, and standing up filled all things with death; and it touched the heaven, but it stood upon the earth. ¹⁷ Then suddenly visions of horrible dreams troubled them sore, and terrors came upon them unlooked for. ¹⁸ And one thrown here, and another there, half dead, shewed the cause of his death. ¹⁹ For the dreams that troubled them did foreshew this, lest they should perish, and not know why they were afflicted.

²⁰ Yea, the tasting of death touched the righteous also, and there was a destruction of the multitude in the wilderness: but the wrath endured not long. ²¹ For then the blameless man made haste, and stood forth to defend them; and bringing the shield of his proper ministry, even prayer, and the propitiation of incense, set himself against the wrath, and so brought the calamity to an end, declaring that he was thy servant.

²² So he overcame the destroyer, not with might of body, nor force of arms, but with a word subdued him that punished, alleging the oaths and covenants made with the fathers. ²³ For when the dead were now fallen down by heaps one upon another, standing between, he stayed the wrath, and parted the way to the living. ²⁴ For in the long garment was the whole world, and in the four rows of the stones was the glory of the fathers graven, and thy Majesty upon the diadem of his head. ²⁵ Unto these the destroyer gave place, and they were afraid of them: for it was enough that they only tasted of the wrath.

φῶτος, καὶ φυλακισθῆναι ἐν σκότει, οἱ κατακλείστους φυλάξαντες τοὺς υἱοὺς σου, δι' ὧν ἡμελλε τὸ ἄφθαρτον νόμου φῶς τῷ αἰῶνι διδοσθαι.

Βουλευσαμένους δ' αὐτοὺς τὰ τῶν ὁσίων ἀποκτεῖναι 5 νήπια, καὶ ἐνὸς ἐκτεθέντος τέκνου, καὶ σωθέντος, εἰς ἔλεγχον τὸ αὐτῶν ἀφείλω πλήθος τέκνων, καὶ ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἀπώλεσας ἐν ὕδατι σφοδρῶ. Ἐκείνη ἡ νύξ 6 προεγνώσθη πατράσιν ἡμῶν, ἵνα ἀσφαλῶς εἰδότες οἷς ἐπίστευσαν ὅρκους, ἐπευθυμήσωσι.

Προσεδέχθη δὲ ὑπὸ λαοῦ σου σωτηρία μὲν δικαίων, 7 ἐχθρῶν δὲ ἀπώλεια. Ὡ γὰρ ἐτιμωρήσω τοὺς ὑπεναντίους, 8 τοῦτω ἡμᾶς προσκαλεσάμενος ἐδόξασας. Κρυφῇ γὰρ 9 ἐθυσιαζον ὅσιοι παῖδες ἀγαθῶν, καὶ τὸν τῆς θειότητος νόμον ἐν ὁμονοίᾳ διέθεντο, τῶν αὐτῶν ὁμοίως καὶ ἀγαθῶν καὶ κινδύνων μεταλήψεσθαι τοὺς ἀγίους, πατέρων ἡδὴ προαναμελπόντων αἶνους.

Ἀντήχει δ' ἀσύμφωνος ἐχθρῶν βοή, καὶ οἰκτρὰ διεφέ- 10 ρετο θρηνουμένων παίδων. Ὁμοίᾳ δὲ δίκη δοῦλος ἅμα 11 δεσπότη κολασθεῖς, καὶ δημότης βασιλεῖ τὰ αὐτὰ πάσχων.

Ὁμοθυμαδὸν δὲ πάντες ἐν ἐνὶ ὀνόματι θανάτου νεκροὺς 12 εἶχον ἀναριθμήτους, οὐδὲ γὰρ πρὸς τὸ θάψαι οἱ ζῶντες ἦσαν ἱκανοί, ἐπεὶ πρὸς μίαν ῥοπήν ἢ ἐντιμότερα γένεσις αὐτῶν διεφθάρη. Πάντα γὰρ ἀπιστοῦντες διὰ τὰς 13 φαρμακίας, ἐπὶ τῷ τῶν πρωτοτόκων ὀλέθρῳ, ὡμολόγησαν Θεοῦ υἱὸν λαὸν εἶναι. Ἠσυχου γὰρ σιγῆς περιεχούσης 14 τὰ πάντα, καὶ νυκτὸς ἐν ἰδίῳ τάχει μεσαζούσης, ὁ παντο- 15 δυνάμὸς σου λόγος ἀπ' οὐρανῶν ἐκ θρόνων βασιλειῶν, ἀπότομος πολεμιστῆς, εἰς μέσον τῆς ὀλεθρίας ἡλατο γῆς, ξίφος δὲ τὴν ἀνυπόκριτον ἐπιταγὴν σου φέρων, 16 καὶ στὰς ἐπλήρωσε τὰ πάντα θανάτου· καὶ οὐρανοῦ μὲν ἤπτετο, βεβήκει δ' ἐπὶ γῆς. Τότε παραχρῆμα φαντασίαι 17 μὲν ὀνείρων δεινῶς ἐξετάραξαν αὐτοὺς, φόβοι δὲ ἐπέστησαν ἀδόκητοι καὶ ἄλλοις ἀλλαχῇ ῥιφεῖς ἡμίβητος, δι' 18 ἣν ἔθνησκεν αἰτίαν ἐνεφάνιζεν. Οἱ γὰρ ὄνειροι θορυβή- 19 σαντες αὐτοὺς, τοῦτο προεμήνυσαν, ἵνα μὴ ἀγνοοῦντες δι' ὃ κακῶς πάσχουσιν, ἀπόλωνται.

Ἦψατο δὲ καὶ δικαίων πείρα θανάτου, καὶ θραῦσις ἐν 20 ἐρήμῳ ἐγένετο πλήθους· ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐπὶ πολὺ ἔμεινεν ἡ ὀργή. Σπεύσας γὰρ ἀνὴρ ἄμεμπτος προεμάχησε· τὸ 21 τῆς ἰδίας λειτουργίας ὄπλον, προσευχὴν καὶ θυμιάματος ἐξίλασμον κομίσας, ἀντέστη τῷ θυμῷ, καὶ πέρας ἐπέθηκε τῇ συμφορᾷ, δεικνὺς ὅτι σὸς ἐστὶ θεράπων.

Ἐνίκησε δὲ τὸν ὄχλον οὐκ ἰσχυὶ τοῦ σώματος, οὐχ 22 ὄπλων ἐνεργείᾳ, ἀλλὰ λόγῳ τὸν κολάζοντα ὑπέταξεν, ὅρκους πατέρων καὶ διαθήκας ὑπομνήσας. Σωρηδὸν γὰρ 23 ἡδὴ πεπτωκότων ἐπ' ἀλλήλων νεκρῶν, μεταξύ στὰς, ἀνέκοψε τὴν ὀργὴν, καὶ διέσχισε τὴν πρὸς τοὺς ζῶντας ὁδόν. Ἐπὶ γὰρ ποδῆρους ἐνδύματος ἦν ὅλος ὁ κόσμος, 24 καὶ πατέρων δόξαι ἐπὶ τετραστίχου λίθου γλυφῆς, καὶ μεγαλωσύνη σου ἐπὶ διαδήματος κεφαλῆς αὐτοῦ. Τούτοις εἶξεν ὁ ὀλοθρεύων, ταῦτα δὲ ἐφοβήθησαν· ἦν 25 γὰρ μόνῃ ἡ πείρα τῆς ὀργῆς ἱκανή.

- 19 Τοῖς δὲ ἀσεβέσι μέχρι τέλους ἀνελεῖμων θυμὸς
2 ἐπέστη. προῆδει γὰρ αὐτῶν καὶ τὰ μέλλοντα, ὅτι αὐτοὶ
ἐπιστρέψαντες τοῦ ἀπείναι, καὶ μετὰ σπουδῆς προ-
3 πέψαντες αὐτοὺς, διώξουσι μεταμεληθέντες. Ἐτι γὰρ
ἐν χερσὶν ἔχοντες τὰ πένθη, καὶ προσοδυρόμενοι τάφοις
νεκρῶν, ἕτερον ἐπεσπίασαντο λογισμὸν ἀνοίας, καὶ οὐς
ἰκετεύοντες ἐξέβαλον, τούτους ὡς φυγάδας ἐδίωκον.
4 Εἶλκε γὰρ αὐτοὺς ἡ ἀξία ἐπὶ τοῦτο τὸ πέρασ ἀνάγκη,
καὶ τῶν συμβεβηκότων ἀμνηστίαν ἐνέβαλεν, ἵνα τὴν
λείπουσαν ταῖς βασάνοις προαναπληρώσωσιν κόλασιν·
5 καὶ ὁ μὲν λαὸς σου παράδοξον ὁδοιπορίαν περάσῃ,
ἐκεῖνοι δὲ ξένον εὖρωσι θάνατον.
6 Ὅλη γὰρ ἡ κτίσις ἐν ἰδίῳ γένει πάλιν ἄνωθεν διε-
τυποῦτο, ὑπηρετοῦσα ταῖς ἰδίαις ἐπιταγαῖς, ἵνα οἱ σοὶ
7 παῖδες φυλαχθῶσιν ἀβλαβεῖς. Ἡ τὴν παρεμβολὴν σκιά-
ζουσα νεφέλη, ἐκ δὲ προϋφειστώτος ὕδατος ξηρᾶς ἀνά-
δυσις γῆς ἐθεωρήθη, ἐξ ἐρυθρᾶς θαλάσσης ὁδὸς ἀνεμπό-
8 διτος, καὶ χλοηφόρον πεδῖον ἐκ κλύδωνος βιαίου, δι' οὗ
πανεθνὴ διήλθον οἱ τῇ σῇ σκεπαζόμενοι χειρὶ, θεωρή-
9 σαντες θαυμαστὰ τέρατα. Ὡς γὰρ ἵπποι ἐνεμήθησαν,
καὶ ὡς ἀμνοὶ διεσκίρτησαν, αἰνοῦντές σε, Κύριε τὸν
10 ῥυόμενον αὐτούς. Ἐμμένητο γὰρ ἔτι τῶν ἐν τῇ
παροικίᾳ αὐτῶν, πῶς ἀντὶ μὲν γενέσεως ζῶων ἐξήγαγεν
ἡ γῆ σκνίπα, ἀντὶ δὲ ἐνύδρων ἐξηρεύετο ὁ ποταμὸς
πλήθος βατράχων.
11 Ἐφ' ὑστέρω δὲ εἶδον καὶ νέαν γένεσιν ὀρνέων, ὅτι
12 ἐπιθυμία προαχθέντες ἠτήσαντο ἐδέσματα τρυφῆς. Εἰς
γὰρ παραμυθίαν ἀνέβη αὐτοῖς ἀπὸ θαλάσσης ὄρνυχο-
13 μήτρα, καὶ αἱ τιμωρίαι τοῖς ἀμαρτωλοῖς ἐπῆλθον, ὥς
ἀνευ τῶν γεγονότων τεκμήριων τῇ βίᾳ τῶν κεραννῶν
δικαίως γὰρ ἔπασχον ταῖς ἰδίαις αὐτῶν πονηρίαις· καὶ
14 γὰρ χαλεπωτέραν μισοξενίαν ἐπετήδενσαν. Οἱ μὲν γὰρ
τοὺς ἀγνοοῦντας οὐκ ἐδέχοντο παρόντας, οὗτοι δὲ εὖ-
15 εργέτας ξένους ἐδουλοῦντο. Καὶ οὐ μόνον, ἀλλ' ἡ τις
ἐπισκοπὴ ἔσται αὐτῶν, ἐπεὶ ἀπεχθῶς προσεδέχοντο τοὺς
16 ἀλλοτρίους· οἱ δὲ μετὰ ἐορτασμάτων εἰσδεξάμενοι τοὺς
ἡδὴ τῶν αὐτῶν μετεσχηκότας δικαίων δεινοῖς ἐκάκωσαν
17 πόνοις. Ἐπλήγησαν δὲ καὶ ἀορασία, ὥσπερ ἐκεῖνοι ἐπὶ
ταῖς τοῦ δικαίου θύραις, ὅτε ἀχανεὶ περιβληθέντες σκότει,
ἐκαστὸς τῶν αὐτοῦ θυρῶν τὴν δίοδον ἐζητεῖ.
18 Δι' ἐαυτῶν γὰρ τὰ στοιχεῖα μεθαρμοζόμενα, ὥσπερ ἐν
ψαλτηρίῳ φθόγγοι τοῦ ῥυθμοῦ τὸ ὄνομα διαλλάσσουσι,
πάντοτε μένοντα ἡχῶ, ὅπερ ἐστὶν εἰκάσαι ἐκ τῆς τῶν
19 γεγονότων ὁψεως ἀκριβῶς. Χερσαῖα γὰρ εἰς ἐνύδρα
20 μετεβάλλετο, καὶ νηκτὰ μετέβαινεν ἐπὶ γῆς. Πῦρ
ἰσχυσεν ἐν ὕδατι τῆς ἰδίας δυνάμεως, καὶ ὕδωρ τῆς
21 σβεστικῆς δυνάμεως ἐπελανθάνετο. Φλόγες ἀνάπαλιν
εὐφθάρτων ζῶων οὐκ ἐμάραναν σάρκας ἐμπεριπατούν-
των, οὐδὲ τηκτὸν εὐτηκτον κρυσταλλοειδὲς γένος ἀμβρο-
22 σίας τροφῆς. Κατὰ πάντα γὰρ, Κύριε, ἐμεγάλυνας
τὸν λαόν σου, καὶ ἐδόξασας, καὶ οὐχ ὑπερείδες, ἐν παντὶ
καιρῷ καὶ τόπῳ παριστάμενος.

As for the ungodly, wrath came upon them without mercy unto the end: for he knew before what they would do; ²how that having given them leave to depart, and sent them hastily away, they would repent and pursue them. ³For whilst they were yet mourning and making lamentation at the graves of the dead, they added another foolish device, and pursued them as fugitives, whom they had intreated to be gone. ⁴For the destiny, whereof they were worthy, drew them unto this end, and made them forget the things that had already happened, that they might fulfil the punishment which was wanting to their torments: ⁵and that thy people might pass through a wonderful way: but they might find a strange death.

⁶For the whole creature in his proper kind was fashioned again anew, serving the peculiar commandments that were given unto them, that thy children might be kept without hurt: ⁷as namely, a cloud shadowing the camp; and where water stood before, dry land appeared; and out of the Red sea a way without impediment; and out of the violent stream a green field: ⁸through which all the people went that were defended with thy hand, seeing thy marvellous strange wonders. ⁹For they went at large like horses, and leaped like lambs, praising thee, O Lord, who hadst delivered them. ¹⁰For they were yet mindful of the things that were done while they sojourned in the strange land, how the ground brought forth flies instead of cattle, and how the river cast up a multitude of frogs instead of fishes.

¹¹But afterward they saw a new generation of fowls, when, being led with their appetite, they asked delicate meats. ¹²For quails came up unto them from the sea for their contentment. ¹³And punishments came upon the sinners not without former signs by the force of thunders: for they suffered justly according to their own wickedness, inasmuch as they used a more hard and hateful behaviour toward strangers. ¹⁴For the Sodomites did not receive those, whom they knew not when they came: but these brought friends into bondage, that had well deserved of them. ¹⁵And not only so, but peradventure some respect shall be had of those, because they used strangers not friendly: ¹⁶but these very grievously afflicted them, whom they had received with feastings, and were already made partakers of the same laws with them. ¹⁷Therefore even with blindness were these stricken, as those were at the doors of the righteous man: when, being compassed about with horrible great darkness, every one sought the passage of his own doors.

¹⁸For the elements were changed in themselves by a kind of harmony, like as in a psalterly notes change the name of the tune, and yet are always sounds; which may well be perceived by the sight of the things that have been done. ¹⁹For earthly things were turned into watery, and the things, that before swam in the water, now went upon the ground. ²⁰The fire had power in the water, forgetting his own virtue: and the water forgot his own quenching nature. ²¹On the other side, the flames wasted not the flesh of the corruptible living things, though they walked therein; neither melted they the icy kind of heavenly meat, that was of nature apt to melt. ²²For in all things, O Lord, thou didst magnify thy people, and glorify them, neither didst thou lightly regard them: but didst assist them in every time and place.

ΣΟΦΙΑ ΣΕΙΡΑΧ.

*The Prologue to the Wisdom of Jesus
the son of Sirach.*

WHEREAS many and great things have been delivered unto us by the law and the prophets, and by others that have followed their steps, for the which things Israel ought to be commended for learning and wisdom: and whereof not only the readers must needs become skilful themselves, but also they that desire to learn be able to profit them which are without, both by speaking and by writing: my grandfather Jesus, when he had much given himself to the reading of the law, and the prophets, and other books of our fathers, and had gotten therein good judgment, was drawn on also himself to write something pertaining to learning and wisdom; to the intent that those which are desirous to learn, and are addicted to these things, might profit much more in living according to the law.

Wherefore let me intreat you to read it with favour and attention, and to pardon us, wherein we may seem to come short of some words, which we have laboured to interpret; for the same things uttered in Hebrew, and translated into another tongue, have not the same force in them. And not only these things, but the law itself, and the prophets, and the rest of the books, have no small difference, when they are spoken in their own language. For in the eight and thirtieth year coming into Egypt, when Euergetes was king, and continuing there some time, I found a book of no small learning: therefore I thought it most necessary for me to bestow some diligence and travail to interpret it: using great watchfulness and skill in that space to bring the book to an end, and set it forth for them also, which in a strange country are willing to learn, being prepared before in manners to live after the law.

ALL wisdom cometh from the Lord, and is with him for ever. ² Who can number the sand of the sea, and the drops of rain, and the days of eternity? ³ Who can find out the height of heaven, and the breadth of the earth, and the deep, and wisdom?

⁴ Wisdom hath been created before all things, and the understanding of prudence from everlasting. ⁶ To whom hath the root of wisdom been revealed? or who hath known her wise counsels?

ΠΡΟΛΟΓΟΣ.

ΠΟΛΛΩΝ καὶ μεγάλων ἡμῖν διὰ τοῦ νόμου καὶ τῶν προφητῶν καὶ τῶν ἄλλων τῶν κατ' αὐτοὺς ἡκολουθηκότων δεδομένων, ὑπὲρ ὧν δέον ἐστὶν ἐπαινεῖν τὸν Ἰσραὴλ παιδείας καὶ σοφίας, καὶ ὡς οὐ μόνον αὐτοὺς τοὺς ἀναγινώσκοντας δέον ἐστὶν ἐπιστήμονας γίνεσθαι, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῖς ἐκτὸς δύνασθαι τοὺς φιλομαθοῦντας χρησίμους εἶναι καὶ λέγοντας καὶ γράφοντας· ὁ πάππος μου Ἰησοῦς ἐπὶ πλεῖον ἑαυτὸν δοὺς εἰς τε τὴν τοῦ νόμου καὶ τῶν προφητῶν καὶ τῶν ἄλλων πατρίων βιβλίων ἀνάγνωσιν, καὶ ἐν τούτοις ἱκανὴν ἔξιν περιποιησάμενος, προήχθη καὶ αὐτὸς συγγράψαι τι τῶν εἰς παιδείαν καὶ σοφίαν ἀνηκόντων, ὅπως οἱ φιλομαθεῖς, καὶ τούτων ἔνοχοι γενόμενοι, πολλῶ μᾶλλον ἐπιπροσθῶσι διὰ τῆς ἐννόμου βιώσεως.

Παρακέκλησθε οὖν μετ' εὐνοίας καὶ προσοχῆς τὴν ἀνάγνωσιν ποιεῖσθαι, καὶ συγγνώμην ἔχειν ἐφ' οἷς ἂν δοκῶμεν τῶν κατὰ τὴν ἐρμηνείαν πεφιλοπονημένων τισὶ τῶν λέξεων ἀδυναμεῖν· οὐ γὰρ ἰσοδυναμεῖ αὐτὰ ἐν ἑαυτοῖς Ἑβραϊστὶ λεγόμενα, καὶ ὅταν μεταχθῇ εἰς ἑτέραν γλῶσσαν. Οὐ μόνον δὲ ταῦτα, ἀλλὰ καὶ αὐτὸς ὁ νόμος, καὶ αἱ προφητεῖαι, καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ τῶν βιβλίων οὐ μικρὰν ἔχει τὴν διαφορὰν ἐν ἑαυτοῖς λεγόμενα. Ἐν γὰρ τῷ ὀγδόῳ καὶ τριακοστῷ ἔτει ἐπὶ τοῦ Εὐεργέτου βασιλέως παραγενηθεὶς εἰς Αἴγυπτον καὶ συγχρονίσας, εὗρον οὐ μικρὰς παιδείας ἀφόμοιον· ἀναγκαιότατον ἐθέμην αὐτὸς προσενέγκασθαί τινα σπουδὴν καὶ φιλοπονίαν τοῦ μεθερμηνεῦσαι τήνδε τὴν βίβλον· πολλὴν γὰρ ἀγρυπνίαν καὶ ἐπιστήμην προσενεγκάμενος ἐν τῷ διαστήματι τοῦ χρόνου, πρὸς τὸ ἐπὶ πέρας ἄγοντα τὸ βιβλίον ἐκδόσθαι, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τῇ παροικίᾳ βουλομένοις φιλομαθεῖν, προκατασκευαζομένοις τὰ ἥθη ἐν νόμῳ βιοτεῦν.

ΣΟΦΙΑ ΣΕΙΡΑΧ.

ΠΑΣΑ σοφία παρὰ Κυρίου, καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐστὶν εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. 1
Ἄμμον θαλασσῶν καὶ σταγόνas ὑετοῦ καὶ ἡμέρας αἰῶνος τίς 2
ἐξαριθμήσει; Ὑψος οὐρανοῦ καὶ πλάτος γῆς καὶ ἄβυσσον καὶ 3
σοφίαν τίς ἐξιχνιάσει;

Προτέρα πάντων ἔκτισται σοφία, καὶ σύνεσις φρονήσεως ἐξ 4
αἰῶνος. Ρίζα σοφίας τίνι ἀπεκαλύφθη; καὶ τὰ πανουργήματα 6
αὐτῆς τίς ἐγνώ;

8 Εἷς ἐστὶ σοφὸς φοβερὸς σφόδρα καθήμενος ἐπὶ τοῦ θρόνου
9 αὐτοῦ. Κύριος αὐτὸς ἔκτισεν αὐτήν, καὶ εἶδε καὶ ἐξηρίθμυσεν
10 αὐτήν, καὶ ἐξέχεεν αὐτήν ἐπὶ πάντα τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ. Μετὰ
πάσης σαρκὸς κατὰ τὴν δόσιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐχορήγησεν αὐτὴν
τοῖς ἀγαπῶσιν αὐτόν·

11 Φόβος Κυρίου δόξα καὶ καύχημα καὶ εὐφροσύνη καὶ στέ-
12 φανος ἀγαλλιάματος. Φόβος Κυρίου τέρψει καρδίαν, καὶ
13 δώσει εὐφροσύνην καὶ χαρὰν καὶ μακροήμερευσιν. Τῷ φοβου-
μένῳ τὸν Κύριον εὖ ἔσται ἐπ' ἐσχάτων, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ τελευτῆς
αὐτοῦ εὐρήσει χάριν.

14 Ἀρχὴ σοφίας φοβεῖσθαι τὸν Θεόν, καὶ μετὰ πιστῶν ἐν
15 μήτρᾳ συνεκτίσθη αὐτοῖς. Καὶ μετὰ ἀνθρώπων θεμέλιον
αἰῶνος ἐνόσσευσεν, καὶ μετὰ τοῦ σπέρματος αὐτῶν ἐμπιστευθή-
16 σεται. Πλησμονὴ σοφίας φοβεῖσθαι τὸν Κύριον, καὶ μεθύσκει
17 αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ τῶν καρπῶν αὐτῆς. Πάντα τὸν οἶκον αὐτῆς ἐμ-
πλήσει ἐπιθυμημάτων, καὶ τὰ ἀποδοχεῖα ἀπὸ τῶν γεννημάτων
18 αὐτῆς. Στέφανος σοφίας φόβος Κυρίου, ἀναθάλλων εἰρήνην
19 καὶ ὑγίειαν ἰάσεως· ἐπιστήμην καὶ γνῶσιν συνέσεως ἐξώμβρυσεν,
καὶ δόξαν κρατούντων αὐτῆς ἀνέψωσε.

20 Ῥίζα σοφίας φοβεῖσθαι τὸν Κύριον, καὶ οἱ κλάδοι αὐτῆς
21 μακροήμερευσιν. Οὐ δυνήσεται θυμὸς ἄδικος δικαιωθῆναι·
22 ἢ γὰρ ῥοπή τοῦ θυμοῦ αὐτοῦ πῶσις αὐτῷ. Ἔως καιροῦ ἀνθ-
έξεται μακρόθυμος, καὶ ὕστερον αὐτῷ ἀναδώσει εὐφροσύνην.
23 Ἔως καιροῦ κρύψει τοὺς λόγους αὐτοῦ, καὶ χεῖλη πιστῶν
24 ἐκδιηγῆσεται σύνεσιν αὐτοῦ. Ἐν θησαυροῖς σοφίας παρα-
25 βολὴ ἐπιστήμης, βδέλνυμα δὲ ἁμαρτωλῶ θεοσέβεια. Ἐπε-
θύμησας σοφίαν, διατήρησον ἐντολάς, καὶ Κύριος χορηγήσει
26 σοι αὐτήν. Σοφία γὰρ καὶ παιδεία φόβος Κυρίου, καὶ ἡ
εὐδοκία αὐτοῦ πίστις καὶ πραότης.

27 Μὴ ἀπειθήσης φόβῳ Κυρίου, καὶ μὴ προσέλθῃς αὐτῷ ἐν
29 καρδίᾳ δισσῇ. Μὴ ὑποκριθῇς ἐν στόμασιν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ ἐν
30 τοῖς χεῖλεσί σου πρόσεχε. Μὴ ἐξύψου σεαυτὸν, ἵνα μὴ
πέσης, καὶ ἐπαγάγῃς τῇ ψυχῇ σου ἀτιμίαν· καὶ ἀποκαλύψει
Κύριος τὰ κρυπτὰ σου, καὶ ἐν μέσῳ συναγωγῆς καταβελεῖ σε·
ὅτι οὐ προσήλθες φόβῳ Κυρίου, καὶ ἡ καρδία σου πλήρης
δόλου.

2 Τεκνὸν εἰ προσέρχῃ δουλεύειν Κυρίῳ Θεῷ, ἐτοίμασον τὴν
2 ψυχὴν σου εἰς πειρασμόν. Εὐθύνον τὴν καρδίαν σου καὶ καρ-
3 τήρησον, καὶ μὴ σπεύσης ἐν καιρῷ ἐπαγωγῆς. Κολλήθητι
4 αὐτῷ καὶ μὴ ἀποστῇς, ἵνα αὐξηθῇς ἐπ' ἐσχάτων σου. Πᾶν ὃ
ἐὰν ἐπαχθῇ σοι, δέξαι, καὶ ἐν ἀλλάγμασι ταπεινώσεώς σου
5 μακροθύμησον. Ὅτι ἐν πυρὶ δοκιμάζεται χρυσὸς, καὶ ἄνθρωποι
6 δεκτοὶ ἐν καμίνῳ ταπεινώσεως. Πίστευσον αὐτῷ καὶ ἀντι-
7 λήψεται σου, εὐθύνον τὰς ὁδοὺς σου καὶ ἔλπισον ἐπ' αὐτόν. Οἱ
φοβούμενοι τὸν Κύριον, ἀναμείνατε τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ, καὶ μὴ
8 ἐκκλίνετε ἵνα μὴ πέσητε. Οἱ φοβούμενοι Κύριον πιστεύ-
9 σατε αὐτῷ, καὶ οὐ μὴ πταίσῃ ὁ μισθὸς ὑμῶν. Οἱ φοβού-
μενοι Κύριον ἐλπίζατε εἰς ἀγαθὰ, καὶ εἰς εὐφροσύνην αἰῶνος
καὶ ἐλέους.

⁸ There is one wise and greatly to be feared, the Lord sitting upon his throne. ⁹ He created her, and saw her, and numbered her, and poured her out upon all his works. ¹⁰ She is with all flesh according to his gift, and he hath given her to them that love him.

¹¹ The fear of the Lord is honour, and glory, and gladness, and a crown of rejoicing. ¹² The fear of the Lord maketh a merry heart, and giveth joy, and gladness, and long life. ¹³ Whoso feareth the Lord, it shall go well with him at the last, and he shall find favour in the day of his death.

¹⁴ To fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and it was created with the faithful in the womb. ¹⁵ She hath built an everlasting foundation with men, and she shall continue with their seed. ¹⁶ To fear the Lord is fulness of wisdom, and filleth men with her fruits. ¹⁷ She filleth all their house with things desirable, and the garners with her increase. ¹⁸ The fear of the Lord is a crown of wisdom, making peace and perfect health to flourish. ¹⁹ Wisdom raineth down skill and knowledge of understanding, and exalteth them to honour that hold her fast.

²⁰ The root of wisdom is to fear the Lord, and the branches thereof are long life. ²¹ A furious man cannot be justified; for the sway of his fury shall be his destruction. ²² A patient man will bear for a time, and afterward joy shall spring up unto him. ²³ He will hide his words for a time, and the lips of many shall declare his wisdom. ²⁴ The parables of knowledge are in the treasures of wisdom: but godliness is an abomination to a sinner. ²⁵ If thou desire wisdom, keep the commandments, and the Lord shall give her unto thee. ²⁶ For the fear of the Lord is wisdom and instruction: and faith and meekness are his delight.

²⁷ Distrust not the fear of the Lord when thou art poor; and come not unto him with a double heart. ²⁹ Be not a hypocrite in the sight of men, and take good heed what thou speakest. ³⁰ Exalt not thyself, lest thou fall, and bring dishonour upon thy soul, and so the Lord discover thy secrets, and cast thee down in the midst of the congregation, because thou camest not in truth to the fear of the Lord, but thy heart is full of deceit.

My son, if thou come to serve the Lord God, prepare thy soul for temptation. ² Set thy heart aright, and constantly endure, and make not haste in time of trouble. ³ Cleave unto him, and depart not away, that thou mayest be increased at thy last end. ⁴ Whatsoever is brought upon thee take cheerfully, and be patient when thou art changed to a low estate. ⁵ For gold is tried in the fire, and acceptable men in the furnace of adversity. ⁶ Believe in him, and he will help thee; order thy way aright, and trust in him. ⁷ Ye that fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; and go not aside, lest ye fall. ⁸ Ye that fear the Lord, believe him; and your reward shall not fail. ⁹ Ye that fear the Lord, hope for good, and for everlasting joy and mercy.

¹⁰ Look at the generations of old, and see; did ever any trust in the Lord, and was confounded? or did any abide in his fear, and was forsaken? or whom did he ever despise, that called upon him? ¹¹ For the Lord is full of compassion and mercy, long-suffering, and very pitiful, and forgiveth sins, and saveth in time of affliction. ¹² Woe be to fearful hearts, and faint hands, and the sinner that goeth two ways!

¹³ Woe unto him that is fainthearted! for he believeth not; therefore shall he not be defended. ¹⁴ Woe unto you that have lost patience! and what will ye do when the Lord shall visit you?

¹⁵ They that fear the Lord will not disobey his word; and they that love him will keep his ways. ¹⁶ They that fear the Lord will seek that which is wellpleasing unto him; and they that love him shall be filled with the law. ¹⁷ They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts, and humble their souls in his sight, ¹⁸ saying, We will fall into the hands of the Lord, and not into the hands of men: for as his majesty is, so is his mercy.

Hear me your father, O children, and do thereafter, that ye may be safe. ² For the Lord hath given the father honour over the children, and hath confirmed the authority of the mother over the sons. ³ Whoso honoureth his father maketh an atonement for his sins: ⁴ and he that honoureth his mother is as one that layeth up treasure.

⁵ Whoso honoureth his father shall have joy of his own children; and when he maketh his prayer, he shall be heard. ⁶ He that honoureth his father shall have a long life; and he that is obedient unto the Lord shall be a comfort to his mother, ⁷ and will do service unto his parents, as to his masters.

⁸ Honour thy father and mother both in word and deed, that a blessing may come upon thee from them. ⁹ For the blessing of the father establisheth the houses of children; but the curse of the mother rooteth out foundations. ¹⁰ Glory not in the dishonour of thy father; for thy father's dishonour is no glory unto thee. ¹¹ For the glory of a man is from the honour of his father; and a mother in dishonour is a reproach to the children.

¹² My son, help thy father in his age, and grieve him not as long as he liveth. ¹³ And if his understanding fail, have patience with him; and despise him not when thou art in thy full strength. ¹⁴ For the relieving of thy father shall not be forgotten: and instead of sins it shall be added to build thee up. ¹⁵ In the day of thine affliction it shall be remembered; thy sins also shall melt away, as the ice in the fair warm weather.

¹⁶ He that forsaketh his father is as a blasphemer; and he that angereth his mother is cursed of God.

¹⁷ My son, go on with thy business in meekness; so shalt thou be beloved of him that is approved. ¹⁸ The greater thou art, the more humble thyself, and thou shalt find favour before the Lord. ²⁰ For the power of the Lord is great, and he is honoured of the lowly.

Ἐμβλέψατε εἰς ἀρχαίας γενεάς καὶ ἴδετε, τίς ἐνεπίστευσε 10
Κυρίῳ καὶ κατησχύνθη; ἢ τίς ἐνέμεινε τῷ φόβῳ αὐτοῦ καὶ
ἐγκατελείφθη; ἢ τίς ἐπεκαλέσατο αὐτόν, καὶ ὑπερεῖδεν
αὐτόν; Διότι οἰκτίρμων καὶ ἐλεήμων ὁ Κύριος, καὶ ἀφήσιν 11
ἁμαρτίας, καὶ σώζει ἐν καιρῷ θλίψεως. Οὐαὶ καρδίαις 12
δειλαῖς, καὶ χερσὶ παρειμέναις, καὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ ἐπιβαίνοντι ἐπὶ
δύο τρίβους.

Οὐαὶ καρδίᾳ παρειμένη, ὅτι οὐ πιστεύει, διὰ τοῦτο οὐ σκε- 13
πασθήσεται. Οὐαὶ ὑμῖν τοῖς ἀπολωλεκόσι τὴν ὑπομονήν, 14
καὶ τί ποιήσετε ὅταν ἐπισκέπτηται ὁ Κύριος;

Οἱ φοβούμενοι Κύριον οὐκ ἀπειθήσουσι ρημάτων αὐτοῦ, καὶ 15
οἱ ἀγαπῶντες αὐτόν συντηρήσουσι τὰς ὁδοὺς αὐτοῦ. Οἱ φοβού- 16
μενοι Κύριον ζητήσουσιν εὐδοκίαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ οἱ ἀγαπῶντες
αὐτόν ἐμπλησθήσονται τοῦ νόμου. Οἱ φοβούμενοι Κύριον 17
ἐτοιμάσουσι καρδίας αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ ταπεινώσουσι
τὰς ψυχὰς αὐτῶν. Ἐμπεσούμεθα εἰς χεῖρας Κυρίου, καὶ οὐκ 18
εἰς χεῖρας ἀνθρώπων· ὥς γὰρ ἡ μεγαλωσύνη αὐτοῦ, οὕτως καὶ
τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ.

Ἐμοῦ τοῦ πατρὸς ἀκούσατε τέκνα, καὶ οὕτως ποιήσατε, ἵνα 3
σωθῆτε. Ὁ γὰρ Κύριος ἐδόξασε πατέρα ἐπὶ τέκνοις, καὶ κρίσιν 2
μητρὸς ἐστερέωσεν ἐφ' υἱοῖς. Ὁ τιμῶν πατέρα ἐξιλάσεται 3
ἁμαρτίας. Καὶ ὥς ὁ ἀποθησανρίζων, ὁ δοξάζων μητέρα 4
αὐτοῦ.

Ὁ τιμῶν πατέρα εὐφρανθήσεται ὑπὸ τέκνων, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ 5
προσευχῆς αὐτοῦ εἰσακουσθήσεται. Ὁ δοξάζων πατέρα 6
μακροημερεύσει, καὶ ὁ εἰσακούων Κυρίου ἀναπαύσει μητέρα
αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὥς δεσπόταις δουλεύσει ἐν τοῖς γεννήσασιν 7
αὐτόν.

Ἐν ἔργῳ καὶ λόγῳ τίμα τὸν πατέρα σου, ἵνα ἐπέλθῃ σοι 8
εὐλογία παρ' αὐτοῦ. Εὐλογία γὰρ πατρὸς στηρίζει οἶκους 9
τέκνων, κατὰ δὲ μητρὸς ἐκρίζοι θεμέλια. Μὴ δοξάζον ἐν 10
ἀτιμίᾳ πατρὸς σου, οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶ σοι δόξα πατρὸς ἀτιμία. Ἡ 11
γὰρ δόξα ἀνθρώπου ἐκ τιμῆς πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὄνειδος τέκνοις
μήτηρ ἐν ἀδοξίᾳ.

Τέκνον, ἀντιλαβοῦ ἐν γήρᾳ πατρὸς σου, καὶ μὴ λυπήσῃς 12
αὐτόν ἐν τῇ ζωῇ αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἀπολείπῃ σύνεσιν, συγγνώμην 13
ἔχε, καὶ μὴ ἀτιμάσῃς αὐτόν ἐν πάσῃ ἰσχύϊ σου. Ἐλεημο- 14
σύνη γὰρ πατρὸς οὐκ ἐπιλησθήσεται, καὶ ἀντὶ ἁμαρτιῶν
προσανοικοδομηθήσεται σοι. Ἐν ἡμέρᾳ θλίψεώς σου ἀναμνη- 15
σθήσεται σοι· ὥς εὐδία ἐπὶ παγετῷ, οὕτως ἀναλυθήσονται
σου αἱ ἁμαρτίαι.

Ὡς βλάσφημος ὁ ἐγκαταλιπὼν πατέρα, καὶ κεκατηραμένος 16
ὑπὸ Κυρίου ὁ παροργίζων μητέρα αὐτοῦ.

Τέκνον, ἐν πραύτητι τὰ ἔργα σου διέξαγε, καὶ ὑπὸ ἀνθρώ- 17
που δεκτοῦ ἀγαπηθήσῃ. Ὅσῳ μέγας εἶ, τοσούτῳ ταπει- 18
νοῦ σεαυτὸν, καὶ ἐναντὶ Κυρίου εὐρήσεις χάριν. Ὅτι 20
μεγάλη ἡ δυναστεία τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ ὑπὸ τῶν ταπεινῶν δοξά-
ζεται.

21 Χαλέπωτέρα σου μὴ ζήτει, καὶ ἰσχυρότερα σου μὴ
 22 ἐξέταζε, ἃ προσετάγη σοι, ταῦτα διανοοῦ· οὐ γάρ ἐστί
 23 σοι χρεία τῶν κρυπτῶν. Ἐν τοῖς περισσοῖς τῶν ἔργων
 σου μὴ περιεργάζου· πλείονα γὰρ συνέσεως ἀνθρώπων
 24 ὑπεδείχθη σοι. Πολλοὺς γὰρ ἐπλάνησεν ἡ ὑπόληψις
 αὐτῶν, καὶ ὑπόνοια πονηρὰ ὠλίσθησε διανοίας αὐτῶν.
 26 Καὶ ὁ ἀγαπῶν κίνδυνον, ἐν αὐτῷ ἐμπεσεῖται· καρδία
 27 σκληρὰ κακωθήσεται ἐπ' ἐσχάτων. Καρδία σκληρὰ
 βαρυνθήσεται πόνοις, καὶ ὁ ἁμαρτωλὸς προσθήσει ἁμαρ-
 28 τίαν ἐφ' ἁμαρτίαις. Ἐπαγωγὴ ὑπερηφάνου οὐκ ἔστιν
 29 ἴασις, φυτὸν γὰρ πονηρίας ἐρρίζωκεν ἐν αὐτῷ· καρδία
 συνετοῦ διανοηθήσεται παραβολὴν, καὶ οὐς ἀκροατοῦ
 ἐπιθυμία σοφοῦ.
 30 Πῦρ φλογιζόμενον ἀποσβέσει ὕδωρ, καὶ ἐλεημοσύνη
 31 ἐξιλάσεται ἁμαρτίας. Ὁ ἀνταποδιδούς χάριτας μέμνηται
 εἰς τὰ μετὰ ταῦτα, καὶ ἐν καιρῷ πτώσεως εὐρήσει στήριγμα.
 4 Τέκνον, τὴν ζωὴν τοῦ πτωχοῦ μὴ ἀποστερήσης, καὶ
 2 μὴ παρελκύσης ὀφθαλμοὺς ἐπιδεῖς. Ψυχὴν πεινώσαν μὴ
 λυπήσης, καὶ μὴ παροργίσῃς ἄνδρα ἐν ἀπορίᾳ αὐτοῦ.
 3 Καρδίαν παροργισμένην μὴ προσταράξης, καὶ μὴ παρ-
 4 ἐλκύσης δόσιν προσδεομένου. Ἰκέτην θλιβόμενον μὴ
 ἀπαναίνου, καὶ μὴ ἀποστρέψῃς τὸ πρόσωπόν σου ἀπὸ
 5 πτωχοῦ. Ἀπὸ δεομένου μὴ ἀποστρέψῃς ὀφθαλμόν, καὶ
 6 μὴ δῶς τόπον ἀνθρώπῳ καταράσασθαί σε. Καταρωμένου
 γάρ σε ἐν πικρίᾳ ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ, τῆς δεήσεως αὐτοῦ ἐπακού-
 7 σεται ὁ ποιήσας αὐτόν. Προσφιλὴ συναγωγὴ σεαυτὸν
 8 ποίει, καὶ μεγιστάνι ταπεινοῦ τὴν κεφαλὴν σου. Κλῖνον
 πτωχῷ τὸ οὖς σου, καὶ ἀποκρίθητι αὐτῷ εἰρηνικὰ ἐν
 πραύτητι.
 9 Ἐξελοῦ ἀδικούμενον ἐκ χειρὸς ἀδικούντος, καὶ μὴ
 10 ὀλιγοψυχήσης ἐν τῷ κρίνειν σε. Γίνου ὀρφανοῖς ὡς
 πατήρ, καὶ ἀντὶ ἀνδρὸς τῇ μητρὶ αὐτῶν· καὶ ἔση ὡς
 υἱὸς ὑψίστου, καὶ ἀγαπήσει σε μᾶλλον ἢ μήτηρ σου.
 11 Ἡ σοφία υἱοὺς ἑαυτῇ ἀνύψωσε, καὶ ἐπιλαμβάνεται
 12 τῶν ζητούντων αὐτήν· ὁ ἀγαπῶν αὐτήν ἀγαπᾷ ζωὴν, καὶ οἱ
 ὀρθρίζοντες πρὸς αὐτήν ἐμπλησθήσονται εὐφροσύνης.
 13 Ὁ κρατῶν αὐτῆς κληρονομήσει δόξαν, καὶ οὐ εἰσπο-
 14 ρεύεται εὐλογίῃσι Κύριος. Οἱ λατρεύοντες αὐτῇ λειτουρ-
 γήσουσιν Ἁγίῳ, καὶ τοὺς ἀγαπῶντας αὐτήν ἀγαπᾷ ὁ Κύριος.
 15 Ὁ ὑπακούων αὐτῆς κρινεῖ ἔθνη, καὶ ὁ προσελθὼν αὐτῇ
 16 κατασκηνώσει πεποιστός. Ἐὰν ἐμπιστεύσῃς, κατακληρονο-
 μήσεις αὐτήν, καὶ ἐν κατασχέσει ἔσονται αἱ γενεαὶ αὐτοῦ.
 17 Ὅτι διεστραμμένως πορεύεται μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐν πρώτοις· φόβον
 δὲ καὶ δειλίαν ἐπάξει ἐπ' αὐτόν, καὶ βασανίσει αὐτόν ἐν
 παιδίᾳ αὐτῆς, ἕως οὗ ἐμπιστεύσῃ τῇ ψυχῇ αὐτοῦ, καὶ
 18 πειράσῃ αὐτόν ἐν τοῖς δικαιώμασιν αὐτῆς. Καὶ πάλιν
 ἐπανήξει κατ' εὐθείαν πρὸς αὐτόν, καὶ εὐφρανεῖ αὐτόν,
 19 καὶ ἀποκαλύψει αὐτῷ τὰ κρυπτὰ αὐτῆς. Ἐὰν ἀποπλανηθῇ,
 ἐγκαταλείψει αὐτόν, καὶ παραδώσει αὐτόν εἰς χεῖρας πτώσεως
 αὐτοῦ.
 20 Συντήρησον καιρὸν καὶ φύλαξαι ἀπὸ πονηροῦ, καὶ περὶ
 21 τῆς ψυχῆς σου μὴ αἰσχυνῇς. Ἔστι γὰρ αἰσχύνῃ

²¹ Seek not out the things that are too hard for thee, neither search the things that are above thy strength. ²² But what is commanded thee, think thereupon *with reverence*; for it is not needful for thee to see *with thine eyes* the things that are in secret. ²³ Be not curious in unnecessary matters; for more things are shewed unto thee than men understand. ²⁴ For many are deceived by their own vain opinion; and an evil suspicion hath overthrown their judgment.

²⁶ A stubborn heart shall fare evil at the last; and he that loveth danger shall perish therein. ²⁷ An obstinate heart shall be laden with sorrows; and the wicked man shall heap sin upon sin. ²⁸ In the punishment of the proud there is no remedy; for the plant of wickedness hath taken root in him. ²⁹ The heart of the prudent will understand a parable; and an attentive ear is the desire of a wise man.

³⁰ Water will quench a flaming fire; and alms maketh an atonement for sins. ³¹ And he that requiteth good turns is mindful of that which may come hereafter; and when he falleth, he shall find a stay.

My son, defraud not the poor of his living, and make not the needy eyes to wait long. ² Make not a hungry soul sorrowful; neither provoke a man in his distress. ³ Add not more trouble to a heart that is vexed; and defer not to give to him that is in need. ⁴ Reject not the supplication of the afflicted; neither turn away thy face from a poor man. ⁵ Turn not away thine eye from the needy, and give him none occasion to curse thee: ⁶ for if he curse thee in the bitterness of his soul, his prayer shall be heard of him that made him. ⁷ Get thyself the love of the congregation, and bow thy head to a great man. ⁸ Let it not grieve thee to bow down thine ear to the poor, and give him a friendly answer with meekness.

⁹ Deliver him that suffereth wrong from the hand of the oppressor; and be not fainthearted when thou sittest in judgment. ¹⁰ Be as a father unto the fatherless, and instead of a husband unto their mother: so shalt thou be as the son of the most High, and he shall love thee more than thy mother doth.

¹¹ Wisdom exalteth her children, and layeth hold of them that seek her. ¹² He that loveth her loveth life; and they that seek to her early shall be filled with joy.

¹³ He that holdeth her fast shall inherit glory; and wheresoever she entereth, the Lord will bless. ¹⁴ They that serve her shall minister to the Holy One: and them that love her the Lord doth love. ¹⁵ Whoso giveth ear unto her shall judge the nations: and he that attendeth unto her shall dwell securely. ¹⁶ If a man commit himself unto her, he shall inherit her; and his generation shall hold her in possession. ¹⁷ For at the first she will walk with him by crooked ways, and bring fear and dread upon him, and torment him with her discipline, until she may trust his soul, and try him by her laws. ¹⁸ Then will she return the straight way unto him, and comfort him, and shew him her secrets. ¹⁹ But if he go wrong, she will forsake him, and give him over to his own ruin.

²⁰ Observe the opportunity, and beware of evil; and be not ashamed when it concerneth thy soul. ²¹ For there is a shame that bringeth

sin; and there is a shame which is glory and grace. ²² Accept no person against thy soul, and let not the reverence of any man cause thee to fall. ²³ And refrain not to speak, when there is occasion to do good, and hide not thy wisdom in her beauty. ²⁴ For by speech wisdom shall be known: and learning by the word of the tongue. ²⁵ In no wise speak against the truth; but be abashed of the error of thine ignorance. ²⁶ Be not ashamed to confess thy sins; and force not the course of the river. ²⁷ Make not thyself an underling to a foolish man; neither accept the person of the mighty. ²⁸ Strive for the truth unto death, and the Lord shall fight for thee.

²⁹ Be not hasty in thy tongue, and in thy deeds slack and remiss. ³⁰ Be not as a lion in thy house, nor frantic among thy servants. ³¹ Let not thine hand be stretched out to receive, and shut when thou shouldest repay.

Set not thy heart upon thy goods; and say not, I have enough for my life. ² Follow not thine own mind and thy strength, to walk in the ways of thy heart: ³ and say not, Who shall control me for my works? for the Lord will surely revenge thy pride. ⁴ Say not, I have sinned, and what harm hath happened unto me? for the Lord is longsuffering, he will in no wise let thee go. ⁵ Concerning propitiation, be not without fear to add sin unto sin: ⁶ and say not, His mercy is great; he will be pacified for the multitude of my sins: for mercy and wrath come from him, and his indignation resteth upon sinners.

⁷ Make no tarrying to turn to the Lord, and put not off from day to day: for suddenly shall the wrath of the Lord come forth, and in thy security thou shalt be destroyed, and perish in the day of vengeance. ⁸ Set not thine heart upon goods unjustly gotten; for they shall not profit thee in the day of calamity.

⁹ Winnow not with every wind, and go not into every way: for so doth the sinner that hath a double tongue. ¹⁰ Be stedfast in thy understanding; and let thy word be the same. ¹¹ Be swift to hear; and let thy life be sincere; and with patience give answer. ¹² If thou hast understanding, answer thy neighbour; if not, lay thy hand upon thy mouth. ¹³ Honour and shame is in talk: and the tongue of man is his fall. ¹⁴ Be not called a whisperer, and lie not in wait with thy tongue: for a foul shame is upon the thief, and an evil condemnation upon the double tongue. ¹⁵ Be not ignorant of any thing in a great matter or a small.

Instead of a friend become not an enemy; for [thereby] thou shalt inherit an ill name, shame, and reproach: even so shall a sinner that hath a double tongue. ² Extol not thyself in the counsel of thine own heart: that thy soul be not torn in pieces as a bull [straying alone]. ³ Thou shalt eat up thy leaves, and lose thy fruit, and leave thyself as a dry tree.

⁴ A wicked soul shall destroy him that hath it, and shall make him to be laughed to scorn of his enemies. ⁵ Sweet language will multiply friends: and a fairspeaking tongue will increase kind greetings. ⁶ Be in peace with many: nevertheless have but one counsellor of a thousand.

⁷ If thou wouldest get a friend, prove him

ἐπάγουσα ἁμαρτίαν, καὶ ἔστιν αἰσχύνη δόξα καὶ χάρις. Μὴ λάβῃς πρόσωπον κατὰ τῆς ψυχῆς σου, καὶ μὴ ἐντραπήῃς ²² εἰς πτώσιν σου. Μὴ κωλύῃς λόγον ἐν καιρῷ σωτηρίας, ²³ ἐν γὰρ λόγῳ γνωσθήσεται σοφία, καὶ παιδεία ἐν ῥήματι ²⁴ γλώσσης. Μὴ ἀντίλεγε τῇ ἀληθείᾳ, καὶ περὶ τῆς ἀπαι- ²⁵ δευσίας σου ἐντραπήθι. Μὴ αἰσχυνθῇς ὁμολογῆσαι ἐφ' ²⁶ ἁμαρτίαις σου, καὶ μὴ βιάζου ῥοὺν ποταμοῦ. Καὶ μὴ ²⁷ ὑποστρώσῃς σεαυτὸν ἀνθρώπῳ μωρῷ, καὶ μὴ λάβῃς πρόσ- ²⁸ ωπον δυνάστου. Ἔως τοῦ θανάτου ἀγωνίσαι περὶ τῆς ²⁹ ἀληθείας, καὶ Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς πολεμήσει ὑπὲρ σοῦ.

Μὴ γίνου τραχὺς ἐν γλώσσῃ σου, καὶ νωθρὸς καὶ παρει- ²⁹ μένος ἐν τοῖς ἔργοις σου. Μὴ ἴσθι ὡς λέων ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ ³⁰ σου, καὶ φαντασιοκοπῶν ἐν τοῖς οἰκέταις σου. Μὴ ἔστω ³¹ ἡ χεὶρ σου ἐκτεταμένη εἰς τὸ λαβεῖν, καὶ ἐν τῷ ἀποδιδόναι συνεσταλμένη.

Μὴ ἔπχε ἐπὶ τοῖς χρήμασί σου, καὶ μὴ εἴπῃς, αὐτάρκη ⁵ μοι ἐστί. Μὴ ἐξακολουθεῖ τῇ ψυχῇ σου καὶ τῇ ἰσχυί ² σου, τοῦ πορεύεσθαι ἐν ἐπιθυμίαις καρδίας σου. Καὶ μὴ ³ εἴπῃς, τίς με δυναστεύσει; ὁ γὰρ Κύριος ἐκδικῶν ἐκδικήσει σε. Μὴ εἴπῃς, ἡμάρτον, καὶ τί μοι ἐγένετο; ὁ γὰρ Κυ- ⁴ ρίος ἐστί μακρόθυμος. Περὶ ἐξιλασμοῦ μὴ ἄφοβος γίνου ⁵ προσθεῖναι ἁμαρτίαν ἐφ' ἁμαρτίαις. Καὶ μὴ εἴπῃς, ὁ ⁶ οἰκτιρμὸς αὐτοῦ πολὺς, τὸ πλῆθος τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν μου ἐξιλά- σεται· ἔλεος γὰρ καὶ ὀργὴ παρ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπὶ ἁμαρτωλοὺς καταπαύσει ὁ θυμὸς αὐτοῦ.

Μὴ ἀνάμενε ἐπιστρέψαι πρὸς Κύριον, καὶ μὴ ὑπερ- ⁷ βάλλου ἡμέραν ἐξ ἡμέρας· ἐξάπινα γὰρ ἐξελεύσεται ὀργὴ Κυρίου, καὶ ἐν καιρῷ ἐκδικήσεως ἐξολῇ. Μὴ ἔπχε ἐπὶ ⁸ χρήμασιν ἀδίκους, οὐδὲν γὰρ ὠφελήσεις ἐν ἡμέρᾳ ἐπαγωγῆς.

Μὴ λίκμα ἐν παντὶ ἀνέμῳ, καὶ μὴ πορεύου ἐν πάσῃ ⁹ ἀτραπῷ· οὕτως ὁ ἁμαρτωλὸς ὁ δίγλωσσος. Ἰσθι ἐστη- ¹⁰ ριγμένος ἐν συνέσει σου, καὶ εἰς ἔστω σου ὁ λόγος. Γίνου ¹¹ ταχὺς ἐν ἀκροάσει σου, καὶ ἐν μακροθυμίᾳ φθέγγου ἀπό- κρισιν. Εἰ ἔστι σοι σύνεσις, ἀποκρίθητι τῷ πλησίον· εἰ δὲ ¹² μὴ, ἡ χεὶρ σου ἔστω ἐπὶ στόματί σου. Δόξα καὶ ἀτιμία ἐν ¹³ λαλίᾳ, καὶ γλώσσᾳ ἀνθρώπου πτώσις αὐτῷ. Μὴ κληθῇς ¹⁴ ψίθυρος, καὶ τῇ γλώσσῃ σου μὴ ἐνέδρευε· ἐπὶ γὰρ τῷ κλέπτῃ ἐστὶν αἰσχύνη, καὶ κατάγνωσις πονηρὰ ἐπὶ διγλώσ- ¹⁵ σου. Ἐν μεγάλῳ καὶ ἐν μικρῷ μὴ ἀγνόει.

Καὶ ἀντὶ φίλου μὴ γίνου ἐχθρὸς· ὄνομα γὰρ πονηρὸν ⁶ αἰσχύνην καὶ ὄνειδος κληρονομήσει· οὕτως ὁ ἁμαρτωλὸς ὁ δίγλωσσος. Μὴ ἐπάρῃς σεαυτὸν ἐν βουλῇ ψυχῆς σου, ² ἵνα μὴ διαρπαγῇ ὡς ταῦρος ἡ ψυχὴ σου. Τὰ φύλλα σου ³ καταφάγεσαι, καὶ τοὺς καρπούς σου ἀπολέσεις, καὶ ἀφήσεις σεαυτὸν ὡς ξύλον ξηρόν.

Ψυχὴ πονηρὰ ἀπολεῖ τὸν κτησάμενον αὐτήν, καὶ ἐπίχαρμα ⁴ ἐχθρῶν ποιήσει αὐτόν. Λάρυγξ γλυκὺς πληθυνεῖ φίλους ⁵ αὐτοῦ, καὶ γλώσσα εὐλαος πληθυνεῖ εὐπροσήγορα. Οἱ ⁶ εἰρηνεύοντές σοι ἔστωσαν πολλοὶ, οἱ δὲ σύμβουλοί σου εἰς ἀπὸ χιλίων.

Εἰ κτᾶσαι φίλον, ἐν πειρασμῷ κτῆσαι αὐτόν, καὶ μὴ ⁷

8 ταχὺ ἐμπιστεύσης αὐτῷ. Ἔστι γὰρ φίλος ἐν καιρῷ αὐτοῦ,
 9 καὶ οὐ μὴ παραμείνῃ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ θλίψεώς σου. Καὶ ἔστι
 φίλος μετατιθέμενος εἰς ἔχθραν, καὶ μάχην ὀνειδισμού σου
 10 ἀποκαλύψει. Καὶ ἔστι φίλος κοινωνὸς τραπέζων, καὶ οὐ
 11 μὴ παραμείνῃ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ θλίψεώς σου. Καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς
 σου ἔσται ὡς σὺ, καὶ ἐπὶ τοὺς οἰκέτας σου παρῆρσιάζεται.
 12 Ἐὰν ταπεινωθῇς, ἔσται κατὰ σοῦ, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ προσώπου
 σου κρυβήσεται.
 13 Ἀπὸ τῶν ἐχθρῶν σου διαχωρίσθητι, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν φίλων
 14 σου πρόσεχε. Φίλος πιστὸς σκέπη κραταῖα, ὃ δὲ εὐρὼν
 15 αὐτὸν εἶρε θησαυρόν. Φίλου πιστοῦ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀντάλ-
 16 λαγμα, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι σταθμὸς τῆς καλλονῆς αὐτοῦ. Φίλος
 πιστὸς φάρμακον ζωῆς, καὶ οἱ φοβούμενοι Κύριον εὐρήσου-
 17 σιν αὐτόν. Ὁ φοβούμενος Κύριον εὐθύνει φιλίαν αὐτοῦ,
 ὅτι κατ' αὐτὸν οὕτως καὶ ὁ πλησίον αὐτοῦ.
 18 Τέκνον, ἐκ νεότητός σου ἐπίλεξαι παιδείαν, καὶ ἔως
 19 πολιῶν εὐρήσεις σοφίαν. Ὡς ὁ ἀροτριῶν καὶ ὁ σπείρων
 πρόσελθε αὐτῇ, καὶ ἀνάμενε τοὺς ἀγαθοὺς καρποὺς αὐτῆς·
 ἐν γὰρ τῇ ἐργασίᾳ αὐτῆς ὀλίγον κοπιάσεις, καὶ ταχὺ φάγεσαι
 20 γεννημάτων αὐτῆς. Ὡς τραχεῖά ἐστι σφόδρα τοῖς ἀπαιδευ-
 21 τοις, καὶ οὐκ ἐμμενεί ἐν αὐτῇ ἀκάρδιος. Ὡς λίθος δοκιμα-
 σίας ἰσχυρὸς ἔσται ἐπ' αὐτῷ, καὶ οὐ χρονιεῖ ἀπορρίψαι
 22 αὐτήν. Σοφία γὰρ κατὰ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῆς ἔστι, καὶ οὐ πολ-
 λοῖς ἔστι φανερά.
 23 Ἀκουσον, τέκνον, καὶ δέξαι γνώμην μου, καὶ μὴ ἀπαναί-
 24 νου τὴν συμβουλίαν μου. Καὶ εἰσένεγκον τοὺς πόδας σου
 εἰς τὰς πέδας αὐτῆς, καὶ εἰς τὸν κλοιὸν αὐτῆς τὸν τράχηλόν
 25 σου. Ὑπόθες τὸν ὦμόν σου, καὶ βάσταξον αὐτήν, καὶ μὴ
 26 προσοχθίσῃς τοῖς δεσμοῖς αὐτῆς. Ἐν πάσῃ ψυχῇ σου
 πρόσελθε αὐτῇ, καὶ ἐν ὅλῃ δυνάμει σου συντήρησον τὰς
 27 ὁδοὺς αὐτῆς. Ἐξίχνευσον καὶ ζήτησον, καὶ γνωσθήσεται
 28 σοι, καὶ ἐγκρατὴς γενόμενος μὴ ἀφῇς αὐτήν. Ἐπ' ἐσχάτων
 γὰρ εὐρήσεις τὴν ἀνάπαυσιν αὐτῆς, καὶ στραφήσεται σοι εἰς
 29 εὐφροσύνην. Καὶ ἔσονται σοι αἱ πέδαι εἰς σκέπην ἰσχύος,
 30 καὶ οἱ κλοιοὶ αὐτῆς εἰς στολὴν δόξης. Κόσμος γὰρ χρύσεός
 ἐστιν ἐπ' αὐτῆς, καὶ οἱ δεσμοὶ αὐτῆς κλῶσμα ὑακίνθινον.
 31 Στολὴν δόξης ἐνδύσῃ αὐτήν, καὶ στέφανον ἀγαλλιάματος
 περιθήσεις σεαυτῷ.
 32 Ἐὰν θέλῃς, τέκνον, παιδευθήσῃ, καὶ ἐὰν δῶς τὴν ψυχὴν
 33 σου, πανούργος ἔσῃ. Ἐὰν ἀγαπήσῃς ἀκούειν ἐκδέξῃ, καὶ
 34 ἐὰν κλίνῃς τὸ οὖς σου σοφὸς ἔσῃ. Ἐν πλήθει πρεσβυτέρων
 35 στῆθι, καὶ, τίς σοφός; αὐτῷ προσκολληθήτη. Πᾶσαν
 διήγησιν θείαν θέλε ἀκούειν, καὶ παροιμίαι συνέσεως μὴ
 36 ἐκφρευγέτωσάν σε. Ἐὰν ἴδῃς συνετὸν, ὀρθρίζε πρὸς αὐτόν,
 37 καὶ βαθμοὺς θυρῶν αὐτοῦ ἐκτριβέτω ὁ πούς σου. Διανοοῦ
 ἐν τοῖς προστάγμασιν Κυρίου, καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἐντολαῖς αὐτοῦ
 μελέτα διαπαντός· αὐτὸς στηριεῖ τὴν καρδίαν σου, καὶ ἡ
 ἐπιθυμία τῆς σοφίας σου δοθήσεται σοι.
 7 Μὴ ποίει κακὰ, καὶ οὐ μὴ σε καταλάβῃ κακόν. Ἀπό-
 2 στηθὶ ἀπὸ ἀδίκου, καὶ ἐκκλινεῖ ἀπὸ σοῦ.
 3 Υἱὲ μὴ σπείρε ἐπ' αὐλακὰς ἀδικίας, καὶ οὐ μὴ θερίσῃς
 4 αὐτὰς ἐπταπλασίως. Μὴ ζῆτει παρὰ Κυρίου ἡγεμονίαν,

first, and be not hasty to credit him. ⁸ For some man is a friend for his own occasion, and will not abide in the day of thy trouble. ⁹ And there is a friend, who being turned to enmity and strife will discover thy reproach. ¹⁰ Again, some friend is a companion at the table, and will not continue in the day of thy affliction. ¹¹ But in thy prosperity he will be as thyself, and will be bold over thy servants. ¹² If thou be brought low, he will be against thee, and will hide himself from thy face.

¹³ Separate thyself from thine enemies, and take heed of thy friends. ¹⁴ A faithful friend is a strong defence: and he that hath found such an one hath found a treasure. ¹⁵ Nothing doth countervail a faithful friend, and his excellency is invaluable. ¹⁶ A faithful friend is the medicine of life: and they that fear the Lord shall find him. ¹⁷ Whoso feareth the Lord shall direct his friendship aright: for as he is, so shall his neighbour be also.

¹⁸ My son, gather instruction from thy youth up: so shalt thou find wisdom till thine old age. ¹⁹ Come unto her as one that ploweth and soweth, and wait for her good fruits: for thou shalt not toil much in labouring about her, but thou shalt eat of her fruits right soon. ²⁰ She is very unpleasant to the unlearned: he that is without understanding will not remain with her. ²¹ She will lie upon him as a mighty stone of trial; and he will cast her from him ere it be long. ²² For wisdom is according to her name, and she is not manifest unto many.

²³ Give ear, my son, receive my advice, and refuse not my counsel, ²⁴ and put thy feet into her fetters, and thy neck into her chain. ²⁵ Bow down thy shoulder, and bear her, and be not grieved with her bonds. ²⁶ Come unto her with thy whole heart, and keep her ways with all thy power. ²⁷ Search, and seek, and she shall be made known unto thee: and when thou hast got hold of her, let her not go. ²⁸ For at the last thou shalt find her rest, and that shall be turned to thy joy. ²⁹ Then shall her fetters be a strong defence for thee, and her chains a robe of glory. ³⁰ For there is a golden ornament upon her, and her bands are purple lace. ³¹ Thou shalt put her on as a robe of honour, and shalt put her about thee as a crown of joy.

³² My son, if thou wilt, thou shalt be taught: and if thou wilt apply thy mind, thou shalt be prudent. ³³ If thou love to hear, thou shalt receive understanding: and if thou bow thine ear, thou shalt be wise. ³⁴ Stand in the multitude of the elders; and cleave unto him that is wise. ³⁵ Be willing to hear every godly discourse: and let not the parables of understanding escape thee. ³⁶ And if thou seest a man of understanding, get thee betimes unto him, and let thy foot wear the steps of his door. ³⁷ Let thy mind be upon the ordinances of the Lord, and meditate continually in his commandments: he shall establish thine heart, and give thee wisdom at thine own desire.

Do no evil, so shall no harm come unto thee. ² Depart from the unjust, and iniquity shall turn away from thee.

³ My son, sow not upon the furrows of unrighteousness, and thou shalt not reap them sevenfold. ⁴ Seek not of the Lord preeminence,

neither of the king the seat of honour. ⁵ Justify not thyself before the Lord; and boast not of thy wisdom before the king. ⁶ Seek not to be judge, being not able to take away iniquity; lest at any time thou fear the person of the mighty, and lay a stumblingblock in the way of thy uprightness. ⁷ Offend not against the multitude of a city, and then thou shalt not cast thyself down among the people. ⁸ Bind not one sin upon another; for in one thou shalt not be unpunished. ⁹ Say not, God will look upon the multitude of my oblations, and when I offer to the most high God, he will accept it. ¹⁰ Be not fainthearted when thou makest thy prayer, and neglect not to give alms.

¹¹ Laugh no man to scorn in the bitterness of his soul: for there is one which humbleth and exalteth. ¹² Devise not a lie against thy brother; neither do the like to thy friend. ¹³ Use not to make any manner of lie: for the custom thereof is not good. ¹⁴ Use not many words in a multitude of elders, and make not much babbling when thou prayest. ¹⁵ Hate not laborious work, neither husbandry, which the most High hath ordained. ¹⁶ Number not thyself among the multitude of sinners, but remember that wrath will not tarry long. ¹⁷ Humble thy soul greatly: ¹⁸ for the vengeance of the ungodly is fire and worms. ¹⁹ Change not a friend for any good by no means; neither a faithful brother for the gold of Suphir. ²⁰ Forego not a wise and good woman: for her grace is above gold. ²¹ Whereas thy servant worketh truly, entreat him not evil, nor the hiring that bestoweth himself wholly for thee.

²² Let thy soul love a good servant, and defraud him not of liberty. ²³ Hast thou cattle? have an eye to them: and if they be for thy profit, keep them with thee. ²⁴ Hast thou children? instruct them, and bow down their neck from their youth. ²⁵ Hast thou daughters? have a care of their body, and shew not thyself cheerful toward them. ²⁶ Marry thy daughter, and so shalt thou have performed a weighty matter: but give her to a man of understanding. ²⁷ Hast thou a wife after thy mind? forsake her not.

²⁸ Honour thy father with thy whole heart, and forget not the sorrows of thy mother. ²⁹ Remember that thou wast begotten of them; and how canst thou recompense them the things that they have done for thee? ³⁰ Fear the Lord with all thy soul, and reverence his priests. ³¹ Love him that made thee with all thy strength, and forsake not his ministers. ³² Fear the Lord, and honour the priest: and give him his portion, as it is commanded thee: the firstfruits, and the trespass offering, and the gift of the shoulders, and the sacrifice of sanctification, and the firstfruits of the holy things. ³³ And stretch thine hand unto the poor, that thy blessing may be perfected. ³⁴ A gift hath grace in the sight of every man living; and for the dead detain it not. ³⁵ Fail not to be with them that weep, and mourn with them that mourn. ³⁶ Be not slow to visit the sick: for that shall make thee to be beloved. ³⁷ Whatsoever thou takest in hand, remember the end, and thou shalt never do amiss.

Strive not with a mighty man, lest thou fall into his hands. ² Be not at variance with a

μηδὲ παρὰ βασιλέως καθέδραν δόξης. Μὴ δικαιοῦ ἔναντι 5 Κυρίου, καὶ παρὰ βασιλεῖ μὴ σοφίζου· μὴ ζητεῖ γενέσθαι 6 κριτῆς, μὴ οὐκ ἐξισχύσεις ἐξάραι ἀδικίας. μήποτε εὐλαβηθῇς ἀπὸ προσώπου δυνάστου, καὶ θήσεις σκάνδαλον ἐν εὐθύτητί σου. Μὴ ἀμάρτανε εἰς πλήθος πόλεως, καὶ μὴ 7 καταβάλης σεαυτὸν ἐν ὄχλῳ. Μὴ καταδεσμεύσης δις 8 ἀμαρτίαν, ἐν γὰρ τῇ μιᾷ οὐκ ἁθῶος ἔσῃ. Μὴ εἴπῃς, τῷ 9 πλήθει τῶν δώρων μου ἐπόψεται, καὶ ἐν τῷ προσενέγκαι με Θεῷ ὑψίστῳ προσδέξεται. Μὴ ὀλιγοψυχήσης ἐν τῇ προσ- 10 ευχῇ σου, καὶ ἐλεημοσύνην ποιῆσαι μὴ παρίδῃς.

Μὴ καταγέλα ἄνθρωπον ὄντα ἐν πικρίᾳ ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ, 11 ἔστι γὰρ ὁ ταπεινῶν καὶ ἀνψῶν. Μὴ ἀροτρία ψεῦδος ἐπ' 12 ἀδελφῷ σου, μηδὲ φίλῳ τὸ ὅμοιον ποιεῖ. Μὴ θέλε ψεύ- 13 δεσθαι πᾶν ψεῦδος, ὁ γὰρ ἐνδελεχισμὸς αὐτοῦ οὐκ εἰς ἀγαθόν. Μὴ ἀδολέσχει ἐν πλήθει πρεσβυτέρων, καὶ μὴ 14 δευτερώσης λόγον ἐν προσευχῇ σου. Μὴ μισήσης ἐπι- 15 πονον ἐργασίαν, καὶ γεωργίαν ὑπὸ ὑψίστου ἐκτισμένην. Μὴ προσλογίζου σεαυτὸν ἐν πλήθει ἀμαρτωλῶν. Ταπει- 16, 17 νωσον σφόδρα τὴν ψυχὴν σου. Μνήσθητι ὅτι ὀργὴ οὐ 18 χρονεῖ, ὅτι ἐκδίκησις ἀσεβοῦς πῦρ καὶ σκώληξ. Μὴ 17, 18 ἀλλάξῃς φίλον ἕνεκεν ἀδιαφόρου, μὴδ' ἀδελφὸν γνήσιον ἐν χρυσίῳ Σουφεῖρ. Μὴ ἀστόχει γυναικὸς σοφῆς καὶ ἀγαθῆς, 19 καὶ γὰρ χάρις αὐτῆς ὑπὲρ τὸ χρυσίον. Μὴ κακώσης 20 οἰκέτην ἐργαζόμενον ἐν ἀληθείᾳ, μηδὲ μίσθιον διδόντα ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ.

Οἰκέτην συνετὸν ἀγαπάτω σου ἡ ψυχὴ, μὴ στερήσης 21 αὐτὸν ἐλευθερίας. Κτήνη σοί ἐστιν; ἐπισκέπτου αὐτά· 22 καὶ εἰ ἔστι σοι χρήσιμα, ἐμμενέτω σοι. Τέκνα σοί ἐστι, 23 παῖδευσον αὐτά, καὶ κάμψον ἐκ νεότητος τὸν τράχηλον αὐτῶν. Θυγατέρες σοί εἰσι; πρόσεχε τῷ σώματι αὐτῶν, 24 καὶ μὴ ἰλαρώσης πρὸς αὐτάς τὸ πρόσωπόν σου. Ἐκδου 25 θυγατέρα, καὶ ἔσῃ τετελεκὼς ἔργον μέγα, καὶ ἀνδρὶ συνετῷ δώρησαι αὐτήν. Γυνή σοι ἐστὶ κατὰ ψυχὴν; μὴ ἐκβάλης 26 αὐτήν.

Ἐν ὅλῃ καρδίᾳ δόξασον τὸν πατέρα σου, καὶ μητρὸς 27 ὠδῖνας μὴ ἐπιλάθῃ. Μνήσθητι ὅτι δι' αὐτῶν ἐγενήθης, καὶ 28 τί ἀνταποδώσεις αὐτοῖς καθὼς αὐτοὶ σοί; Ἐν ὅλῃ ψυχῇ 29 σου εὐλαβοῦ τὸν Κύριον, καὶ τοὺς ἱερεῖς αὐτοῦ θαύμαζε. Ἐν ὅλῃ δυνάμει ἀγάπησον τὸν ποιήσαντά σε, καὶ τοὺς 30 λειτουργοὺς αὐτοῦ μὴ ἐγκαταλίπῃς. Φοβοῦ τὸν Κύριον, καὶ 31 δόξασον ἱερέα, καὶ δὸς τὴν μερίδα αὐτῷ, καθὼς ἐντέταλται σοι, ἀπαρχὴν, καὶ περὶ πλημμελείας, καὶ δόσιν βραχιόνων, καὶ θυσίαν ἁγιασμῶ, καὶ ἀπαρχὴν ἁγίων. Καὶ πτωχῷ 32 ἔκτεινον τὴν χεῖρά σου, ἵνα τελειωθῇ ἡ εὐλογία σου. Χάρις 33 δόματος ἔναντι παντὸς ζῶντος, καὶ ἐπὶ νεκρῷ μὴ ἀποκωλύσης χάριν. Μὴ ὑστέρει ἀπὸ κλαιόντων, καὶ μετὰ πεν- 34 θούντων πένθησον. Μὴ ὀκνεῖ ἐπισκέπτεσθαι ἄρρωστον, ἐκ 35 γὰρ τῶν τοιούτων ἀγαπηθήσῃ. Ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς λόγοις σου 36 μιμνήσκου τὰ ἔσχατά σου, καὶ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα οὐχ ἀμαρτήσεις.

Μὴ διαμάχου μετὰ ἀνθρώπου δυνάστου, μήποτε ἐμπέσης 8 εἰς τὰς χεῖρας αὐτοῦ. Μὴ ἔριζε μετὰ ἀνθρώπου πλουσίου, 2

μήποτε ἀντιστήσῃ σου τὴν ὀλκὴν· πολλοὺς γὰρ ἀπώλεσε
 3 τὸ χρυσίον, καὶ καρδίας βασιλέων ἐξέκλινε. Μὴ διαμάχου
 μετὰ ἀνθρώπου γλωσσώδους, καὶ μὴ ἐπιστοιβάσῃς ἐπὶ τὸ
 4 πῦρ αὐτοῦ ξύλα. Μὴ πρόσπαιζε ἀπαιδεύτῳ, ἵνα μὴ ἀτιμά-
 5 ζωνται οἱ πρόγονοί σου. Μὴ ὀνειδίξε ἀνθρώπον ἀποστρέ-
 φοντα ἀπὸ ἁμαρτίας, μνήσθητι ὅτι πάντες ἐσμὲν ἐν ἐπιτι-
 6 μίοις. Μὴ ἀτιμάσῃς ἀνθρώπον ἐν γήρει αὐτοῦ, καὶ γὰρ ἐξ
 7 ἡμῶν γηράσκουσι. Μὴ ἐπίχαιρε ἐπὶ νεκρῷ, μνήσθητι ὅτι
 8 πάντες τελευτῶμεν. Μὴ παρίδῃς διήγημα σοφῶν, καὶ ἐν
 ταῖς παροιμίαις αὐτῶν ἀναστρέφου, ὅτι παρ' αὐτῶν μαθήσῃ
 παιδεῖαν, καὶ λειτουργῆσαι μεγιστάσι.

9 Μὴ ἀστόχει διηγήματος γερόντων, καὶ γὰρ αὐτοὶ ἔμαθον
 παρὰ τῶν πατέρων αὐτῶν· ὅτι παρ' αὐτῶν μαθήσῃ σύνεσιν,
 10 καὶ ἐν καιρῷ χρείας δοῦναι ἀπόκρισιν. Μὴ ἔκκαie ἄνθρακας
 11 ἁμαρτωλοῦ, μὴ ἐμπυρισθῇς ἐν πυρὶ φλογὸς αὐτοῦ. Μὴ
 ἐξαναστῇς ἀπὸ προσώπου ὑβριστοῦ, ἵνα μὴ ἐγκαθίσῃ ὡς
 12 ἐνεδρον τῷ στόματί σου. Μὴ δανείσῃς ἀνθρώπῳ ἰσχυρο-
 13 τέρῳ σου, καὶ ἐὰν δανείσῃς, ὡς ἀπολωλεκὼς γίνου. Μὴ
 ἐγγυήσῃ ὑπὲρ δυναμίν σου, καὶ ἐὰν ἐγγυήσῃ, ὡς ἀποτίσω
 14 φρόντιζε. Μὴ δικάζου μετὰ κριτοῦ, κατὰ γὰρ τὴν δόξαν
 15 αὐτοῦ κρινούσιν αὐτῷ. Μετὰ τολμηροῦ μὴ πορεύου ἐν
 ὁδῷ, ἵνα μὴ βαρύνῃται κατὰ σοῦ· αὐτὸς γὰρ κατὰ τὸ θέλημα
 αὐτοῦ ποιήσει, καὶ τῇ ἀφροσύνῃ αὐτοῦ συναπολῇ.

16 Μετὰ θυμώδους μὴ ποιήσῃς μάχην, καὶ μὴ διαπορεύου
 μετ' αὐτοῦ τὴν ἔρημον, ὅτι ὡς οὐδὲν ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς αὐτοῦ
 17 αἶμα, καὶ ὅπου οὐκ ἔστι βοήθεια, καταβαλεῖ σε. Μετὰ
 μωροῦ μὴ συμβουλευέου, οὐ γὰρ δυνήσεται λόγον στέξαι.
 18 Ἐνώπιον ἀλλοτρίου μὴ ποιήσῃς κρυπτόν, οὐ γὰρ γινώσκεις
 19 τί τέξεται. Παντὶ ἀνθρώπῳ μὴ ἐκφαίνε σὴν καρδίαν, καὶ
 μὴ ἀναφερέτω σοι χάριν.

9 Μὴ ζήλου γυναῖκα τοῦ κόλπου σου, μηδὲ διδάξῃς ἐπὶ
 2 σεαυτὸν παιδεῖαν πονηράν. Μὴ δῶς γυναικὶ τὴν ψυχὴν
 3 σου, ἐπιβῆναι αὐτὴν ἐπὶ τὴν ἰσχύν σου. Μὴ ὑπάντα
 γυναικὶ ἐταιριζομένη, μήποτε ἐμπέσῃς εἰς τὰς παγίδας
 4 αὐτῆς. Μετὰ ψαλλούσης μὴ ἐνδελέχιζε, μήποτε ἀλῶς ἐν
 5 τοῖς ἐπιχειρήμασιν αὐτῆς. Παρθένον μὴ καταμάνθανε,
 6 μήποτε σκανδαλισθῇς ἐν τοῖς ἐπιτιμίοις αὐτῆς. Μὴ δῶς
 πόρναις τὴν ψυχὴν σου, ἵνα μὴ ἀπολέσῃς τὴν κληρονομίαν
 7 σου. Μὴ περιβλέπον ἐν ῥύμαις πόλεως, καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἐρή-
 8 μοις αὐτῆς μὴ πλανῶ. Ἀπόστρεψον ὀφθαλμὸν ἀπὸ γυναι-
 κὸς εὐμόρφου, καὶ μὴ καταμάνθανε κάλλος ἀλλότριον· ἐν
 κάλλει γυναικὸς πολλοὶ ἐπλανήθησαν, καὶ ἐκ τούτου φιλία
 ὡς πῦρ ἀνάκαίεται.

9 Μετὰ ὑπάνδρου γυναικὸς μὴ κάθου τὸ σύνολον, καὶ μὴ
 συμβολοκοπήσῃς μετ' αὐτῆς ἐν οἴνῳ, μήποτε ἐκκλίνη ἡ
 ψυχὴ σου ἐπ' αὐτὴν, καὶ τῷ πνεύματί σου ὀλισθήσῃς εἰς
 10 ἀπώλειαν. Μὴ ἐγκαταλίπῃς φίλον ἀρχαῖον, ὃ γὰρ πρόσ-
 φατος οὐκ ἔστιν ἔφισος αὐτῷ· οἶνος νέος, φίλος νέος, ἐὰν
 11 παλαιωθῇ, μετ' εὐφροσύνης πίεσαι αὐτόν. Μὴ ζηλώσῃς
 δόξαν ἁμαρτωλοῦ, οὐ γὰρ οἶδας τί ἔσται ἡ καταστροφή
 12 αὐτοῦ. Μὴ εὐδοκήσῃς ἐν εὐδοκίᾳ ἀσεβῶν, μνήσθητι ὅτι
 13 ἕως αἵτου οὐ μὴ δικαιωθῶσι. Μακρὰν ἄπεχε ἀπὸ ἀνθρώπου

rich man, lest he overweigh thee: for gold
 hath destroyed many, and perverted the hearts
 of kings. ³ Strive not with a man that is full
 of tongue, and heap not wood upon his fire.
⁴ Jest not with a rude man, lest thy ancestors
 be disgraced. ⁵ Reproach not a man that
 turneth from sin, but remember that we are all
 worthy of punishment. ⁶ Dishonour not a man
 in his old age: for even some of us wax old.
⁷ Rejoice not over thy greatest enemy being
 dead, but remember that we die all. ⁸ Despise
 not the discourse of the wise, but acquaint
 thyself with their proverbs: for of them thou
 shalt learn instruction, and how to serve great
 men with ease.

⁹ Miss not the discourse of the elders: for
 they also learned of their fathers, and of them
 thou shalt learn understanding, and to give
 answer as need requireth. ¹⁰ Kindle not the
 coals of a sinner, lest thou be burnt with the
 flame of his fire. ¹¹ Rise not up [in anger] at
 the presence of an injurious person, lest he lie
 in wait to entrap thee in thy words. ¹² Lend
 not unto him that is mightier than thyself: for
 if thou lendest him, count it but lost. ¹³ Be
 not surety above thy power: for if thou be
 surety, take care to pay it. ¹⁴ Go not to law with
 a judge; for they will judge for him according
 to his honour. ¹⁵ Travel not by the way with a
 bold fellow, lest he become grievous unto thee:
 for he will do according to his own will, and
 thou shalt perish with him through his folly.

¹⁶ Strive not with an angry man, and go not
 with him into a solitary place: for blood is as
 nothing in his sight; and where there is no
 help, he will overthrow thee. ¹⁷ Consult not
 with a fool; for he cannot keep counsel. ¹⁸ Do
 no secret thing before a stranger: for thou
 knowest not what he will bring forth. ¹⁹ Open
 not thine heart to every man, lest he requite
 thee with a shrewd turn.

Be not jealous over the wife of thy bosom,
 and teach her not an evil lesson against thyself.
² Give not thy soul unto a woman to set her
 foot upon thy substance. ³ Meet not with an
 harlot, lest thou fall into her snares. ⁴ Use not
 much the company of a woman that is a singer,
 lest thou be taken with her attempts. ⁵ Gaze
 not on a maid, that thou fall not by those
 things that are precious in her. ⁶ Give not thy
 soul unto harlots, that thou lose not thine
 inheritance. ⁷ Look not round about thee in
 the streets of the city, neither wander thou in
 the solitary places thereof. ⁸ Turn away thine
 eye from a beautiful woman, and look not upon
 another's beauty; for many have been deceived
 by the beauty of a woman; for herewith love
 is kindled as a fire.

⁹ Sit not at all with another man's wife, nor
 sit down with her in thine arms, and spend
 not thy money with her at the wine; lest thine
 heart incline unto her, and so through thy de-
 sire thou fall into destruction. ¹⁰ Forsake not
 an old friend; for the new is not comparable to
 him: a new friend is as new wine; when it is
 old, thou shalt drink it with pleasure. ¹¹ Envy
 not the glory of a sinner: for thou knowest not
 what shall be his end. ¹² Delight not in the
 thing that the ungodly have pleasure in; but
 remember they shall not go unpunished unto
 their grave. ¹³ Keep thee far from the man that

hath power to kill: so shalt thou not doubt the fear of death: and if thou come unto him, make no fault, lest he take away thy life presently: remember that thou goest in the midst of snares, and that thou walkest upon the battlements of the city.

¹⁴ As near as thou canst, guess at thy neighbour, and consult with the wise. ¹⁵ Let thy talk be with the wise, and all thy communication in the law of the most High. ¹⁶ And let just men eat and drink with thee; and let thy glorying be in the fear of the Lord. ¹⁷ For the hand of the artificer the work shall be commended; and the wise ruler of the people for his speech. ¹⁸ A man of an ill tongue is dangerous in his city; and he that is rash in his talk shall be hated.

A wise judge will instruct his people; and the government of a prudent man is well ordered. ² As the judge of the people is himself, so are his officers; and what manner of man the ruler of the city is, such are all they that dwell therein. ³ An unwise king destroyeth his people; but through the prudence of them which are in authority the city shall be inhabited. ⁴ The power of the earth is in the hand of the Lord, and in due time he will set over it one that is profitable. ⁵ In the hand of God is the prosperity of man: and upon the person of the scribe shall he lay his honour.

⁶ Bear not hatred to thy neighbour for every wrong; and do nothing at all by injurious practices. ⁷ Pride is hateful before God and man: and by both doth one commit iniquity. ⁸ Because of unrighteous dealings, injuries, and riches got by deceit, the kingdom is translated from one people to another.

⁹ Why is earth and ashes proud? There is not a more wicked thing than a covetous man: for such an one setteth his own soul to sale; because while he liveth he casteth away his bowels. ¹⁰ The physician cutteth off a long disease: and he that is to day a king to morrow shall die. ¹¹ For when a man is dead, he shall inherit creeping things, beasts, and worms. ¹² The beginning of pride is when one departeth from God, and his heart is turned away from his Maker. ¹³ For pride is the beginning of sin, and he that hath it shall pour out abomination: and therefore the Lord brought upon them strange calamities, and overthrew them utterly.

¹⁴ The Lord hath cast down the thrones of proud princes, and set up the meek in their stead. ¹⁵ The Lord hath plucked up the roots of the proud nations, and planted the lowly in their place. ¹⁶ The Lord overthrew countries of the heathen, and destroyed them to the foundations of the earth. ¹⁷ He took some of them away, and destroyed them, and hath made their memorial to cease from the earth. ¹⁸ Pride was not made for men, nor furious anger for them that are born of a woman. ¹⁹ They that fear the Lord are a sure seed, and they that love him an honourable plant: they that regard not the law are a dishonourable seed; they that transgress the commandments are a deceivable seed. ²⁰ Among brethren he that is chief is honourable; so are they that fear the Lord in his eyes. ²² Whether he be rich, noble or poor, their glory is the fear of the Lord.

²³ It is not meet to despise the poor man that hath understanding; neither is it convenient to magnify a sinful man. ²⁴ Great men, and judges, and potentates, shall be honoured; yet is there none of them greater than he that

ὅς ἔχει ἐξουσίαν τοῦ φονεῖν, καὶ οὐ μὴ ὑποπτεύσῃς φόβον θανάτου· καὶ ἂν προσέλθῃς, μὴ πλημμελήσῃς, ἵνα μὴ ἀφέλῃται τὴν ζωὴν σου· ἐπίγνωθι ὅτι ἐν μέσῳ παγίδων διαβαίνεις, καὶ ἐπὶ ἐπάλξεων πόλεων περιπατεῖς.

Κατὰ τὴν ἰσχὺν σου στόχασαι τοὺς πλησίον, καὶ μετὰ ¹⁴ σοφῶν συμβουλευέου. Καὶ μετὰ συνετῶν ἔστω ὁ διαλογισμός σου, καὶ πᾶσα διήγησίς σου ἐν νόμῳ ὑψίστου. Ἄνδρες ¹⁶ δίκαιοι ἔστωσαν σύνδειπνοί σου, καὶ ἐν φόβῳ Κυρίου ἔστω τὸ καύχημά σου. Ἐν χειρὶ τεχνιτῶν ἔργον ἐπαινεθήσεται, ¹⁷ καὶ ὁ ἡγούμενος λαοῦ σοφὸς ἐν λόγῳ αὐτοῦ. Φοβερὸς ἐν ¹⁸ πόλει αὐτοῦ ἀνὴρ γλωσσώδης, καὶ ὁ προπετὴς ἐν λόγῳ αὐτοῦ μισηθήσεται.

Κριτὴς σοφὸς παιδεύσει τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἡγεμονία ¹⁰ συνετοῦ τεταγμένη ἔσται. Κατὰ τὸν κριτὴν τοῦ λαοῦ αὐτοῦ οὕτως καὶ οἱ λειτουργοὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ κατὰ τὸν ἡγούμενον τῆς πόλεως πάντες οἱ κατοικοῦντες αὐτήν. Βασιλεὺς ἀπαίδευτος ἀπολεί τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ πόλις οἰκισθήσεται ἐν ³ συνέσει δυναστῶν. Ἐν χειρὶ Κυρίου ἐξουσία τῆς γῆς, καὶ ⁴ τὸν χρήσιμον ἐγερεῖ εἰς καιρὸν ἐπ' αὐτῆς. Ἐν χειρὶ Κυρίου εὐδοκία ἀνδρὸς, καὶ προσώπῳ γραμματέως ἐπιθήσει δόξαν αὐτοῦ.

Ἐπὶ παντὶ ἀδικήματι μὴ μηνιάσῃς τῷ πλησίον, καὶ μὴ ⁶ πράσσε μὴδὲν ἐν ἔργοις ὕβρεως. Μισητὴ ἔναντι Κυρίου ⁷ καὶ ἀνθρώπων ὑπερηφανία, καὶ ἐξ ἀμφοτέρων πλημμελήσει ἀδίκᾳ. Βασιλεία ἀπὸ ἔθνους εἰς ἔθνος μετάγεται, διὰ ἀδικίας ⁸ καὶ ὕβρεις καὶ χρήματα.

Τί ὑπερηφανεύεται γῇ καὶ σποδός; ὅτι ἐν ζωῇ ἔρριψα ⁹ τὰ ἐνδόσθια αὐτοῦ. Μακρὸν ἀρρώστημα σκώπτει ἱατρός, ¹⁰ καὶ βασιλεὺς σήμερον, καὶ αὔριον τελευτήσει. Ἐν γὰρ ¹¹ τῷ ἀποθανεῖν ἄνθρωπον, κληρονομήσει ἐρπετὰ καὶ θηρία καὶ σκώληκας. Ἀρχὴ ὑπερηφανίας, ἀνθρώπου ἀφίστα- ¹² μένου ἀπὸ Κυρίου, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ ποιήσαντος αὐτὸν ἀέστη ἢ καρδία αὐτοῦ. Ὅτι ἀρχὴ ὑπερηφανίας ἀμαρτία, καὶ ¹³ ὁ κρατῶν αὐτῆς ἐξομβρήσει βδέλυγμα· διὰ τοῦτο παρεδόξασε Κύριος τὰς ἐπαγωγὰς, καὶ κατέστρεψεν εἰς τέλους αὐτοὺς.

Θρόνους ἀρχόντων καθεῖλεν ὁ Κύριος, καὶ ἐκάθισε πρᾶεῖς ¹⁴ ἀντ' αὐτῶν. Ρίζας ἐθνῶν ἐξέτιλεν ὁ Κύριος, καὶ ἐφύτευσε ¹⁵ ταπεινοὺς ἀντ' αὐτῶν. Χώρας ἐθνῶν κατέστρεψεν ὁ Κύριος, ¹⁶ καὶ ἀπώλεσεν αὐτὰς ἕως θεμελίων γῆς. Ἐξήραναν ἐξ αὐτῶν ¹⁷ καὶ ἀπώλεσεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ κατέπανσεν ἀπὸ γῆς τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτῶν. Οὐκ ἔκτισται ἀνθρώποις ὑπερηφανία, οὐδὲ ¹⁸ ὀργὴ θυμοῦ γεννήμασι γυναικῶν. Σπέρμα ἔντιμον ποῖον; ¹⁹ σπέρμα ἀνθρώπου· σπέρμα ἔντιμον ποῖον; οἱ φοβούμενοι τὸν Κύριον· σπέρμα ἄτιμον ποῖον; σπέρμα ἀνθρώπου· σπέρμα ἄτιμον ποῖον; οἱ παραβαίνοντες ἐντολάς. Ἐν ²⁰ μέσῳ ἀδελφῶν ὁ ἡγούμενος αὐτῶν ἔντιμος, καὶ οἱ φοβούμενοι Κύριον ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς αὐτοῦ. Πλούσιος καὶ ἐνδοξός ²² καὶ πτωχός, τὸ καύχημα αὐτῶν φόβος Κυρίου.

Οὐ δίκαιον ἀτιμάσαι πτωχὸν συνετὸν, καὶ οὐ καθήκει ²³ δοξάσαι ἄνδρα ἀμαρτωλόν. Μεγιστὰν καὶ κριτῆς καὶ δυνά- ²⁴ στης δοξασθήσεται, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτῶν τις μείζων τοῦ

- 25 φοβουμένου τὸν Κύριον. Οἰκέτη σοφῷ ἐλεύθεροι λειτουρ-
 26 γήσουσι, καὶ ἀνὴρ ἐπιστήμων οὐ γογγύσει. Μὴ σοφίζου
 ποιῆσαι τὸ ἔργον σου, καὶ μὴ δοξάζου ἐν καιρῷ στενοχωρίας
 27 σου. Κρείσσων ἐργαζόμενος ἐν πάσιν, ἢ περιπατῶν, ἢ δοξα-
 ζόμενος καὶ ἀπορῶν ἄρτων.
 28 Τέκνον, ἐν πραύτητι δόξασον τὴν ψυχὴν σου, καὶ δὸς
 29 αὐτῇ τιμὴν κατὰ τὴν ἀξίαν αὐτῆς. Τὸν ἀμαρτάνοντα εἰς
 τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ τίς δικαιώσει; καὶ τίς δοξάσει τὸν ἀτιμά-
 30 ζοντα τὴν ζωὴν αὐτοῦ; Πτωχὸς δοξάζεται δι' ἐπιστήμην
 31 αὐτοῦ, καὶ πλούσιος δοξάζεται διὰ τὸν πλούτον αὐτοῦ. Ὁ
 δὲ δοξαζόμενος ἐν πτωχείᾳ, καὶ ἐν πλούτῳ ποσαχῶς; καὶ
 ὁ ἀδοξος ἐν πλούτῳ, καὶ ἐν πτωχείᾳ ποσαχῶς;
 11 Σοφία ταπεινοῦ ἀνύψωσε κεφαλὴν, καὶ ἐν μέσῳ μεγί-
 2 στάνων καθίσει αὐτόν. Μὴ αἰνέσεις ἄνδρα ἐν κάλλει αὐτοῦ,
 3 καὶ μὴ βδελύξῃ ἄνθρωπον ἐν ὁράσει αὐτοῦ. Μικρὰ ἐν
 πετεινοῖς μέλισσα, καὶ ἀρχὴ γλυκασμάτων ὁ καρπὸς αὐτῆς.
 4 Ἐν περιβολῇ ἱματίων μὴ καυχῆσθαι, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ δόξης μὴ
 ἐπαίρου, ὅτι θαυμαστὰ τὰ ἔργα Κυρίου, καὶ κρυπτὰ τὰ ἔργα
 5 αὐτοῦ ἐν ἀνθρώποις. Πολλοὶ τύραννοι ἐκάθισαν ἐπὶ ἐδά-
 6 φους, ὁ δὲ ἀνυπονόητος ἐφόρεσε διάδημα. Πολλοὶ δυνά-
 σται ἡτιμάσθησαν σφόδρα, καὶ ἔνδοξοι παρεδόθησαν εἰς
 7 χεῖρας ἐτέρων. Πρὶν ἐξετάσης μὴ μέμψῃ νόησον πρῶτον
 8 καὶ τότε ἐπιτιμα. Πρὶν ἢ ἀκοῦσαι μὴ ἀποκρίνου, καὶ ἐν
 9 μέσῳ λόγων μὴ παρεμβάλλου. Περὶ πράγματος οὐ οὐκ
 ἔστι σοι χρεῖα, μὴ ἔριζε, καὶ ἐν κρίσει ἀμαρτωλῶν μὴ
 συνέδρευε.
 10 Τέκνον, μὴ περὶ πολλὰ ἔστωσαν αἱ πράξεις σου· ἔαν
 πληθυνῇς, οὐκ ἀθωωθήσῃ· καὶ ἔαν διώκῃς, οὐ μὴ κατα-
 11 λάβῃς, καὶ οὐ μὴ ἐκφύγῃς διαδράς. Ἔστι κοπῶν καὶ
 12 πονῶν καὶ σπείδων, καὶ τόσῳ μᾶλλον ὑστερεῖται. Ἔστι
 νωθρὸς καὶ προσδεόμενος ἀντιλήψεως, ὑστερῶν ἰσχυῖ, καὶ
 πτωχεῖα περισσεύει, καὶ οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ Κυρίου ἐπέβλεψαν
 αὐτῷ εἰς ἀγαθὰ, καὶ ἀνώρθωσεν αὐτὸν ἐκ ταπεινώσεως αὐτοῦ.
 13 Καὶ ἀνύψωσε κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπεθαύμασαν ἐπ' αὐτῷ
 πολλοί.
 14 Ἀγαθὰ καὶ κακὰ, ζωὴ καὶ θάνατος, πτωχεῖα καὶ πλούτος
 17 παρὰ Κυρίου ἐστί. Δόσις Κυρίου παραμένει εὐσεβέσι,
 18 καὶ ἡ εὐδοκία αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα εὐδοωθήσεται. Ἔστι
 πλουτῶν ἀπὸ προσοχῆς καὶ σφιγγίας αὐτοῦ, καὶ αὕτη ἡ
 19 μερὶς τοῦ μισθοῦ αὐτοῦ. Ἐν τῷ εἰπεῖν αὐτόν, εὖρον
 ἀνάπαυσιν, καὶ νῦν φάγωμαι ἐκ τῶν ἀγαθῶν μου, καὶ οὐκ
 οἶδε τίς καιρὸς παρελεύσεται, καὶ καταλείψει αὐτὰ ἐτέροις,
 20 καὶ ἀποθανεῖται. Στήθι ἐν διαθήκῃ σου καὶ ὁμίλει ἐν
 21 αὐτῇ, καὶ ἐν τῷ ἔργῳ σου παλαιώθητι. Μὴ θαύμαζε ἐν
 ἔργοις ἀμαρτωλοῦ, πίστευε τῷ Κυρίῳ καὶ ἔμμενε τῷ πόνῳ
 σου· ὅτι κοῦφον ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς Κυρίου διὰ τάχους ἐξάπινα
 πλουτίσαι πένητα.
 22 Εὐλογία Κυρίου ἐν μισθῷ εὐσεβοῦς, καὶ ἐν ὥρᾳ ταχυνῇ
 23 ἀναβάλλει εὐλογίαν αὐτοῦ. Μὴ εἴπῃς, τίς ἐστί μου χρεῖα;
 24 καὶ τίνα ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν ἔσται μου τὰ ἀγαθὰ; Μὴ εἴπῃς,
 25 αὐτάρκη μοι ἐστὶ, καὶ τί ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν κακωθήσομαι; Ἐν
 ἡμέρᾳ ἀγαθῶν ἀμνησία κακῶν, καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ κακῶν οὐ

fearth the Lord. ²⁵ Unto the servant that is wise shall they that are free do service: and he that hath knowledge will not grudge when he is reformed. ²⁶ Be not overwise in doing thy business; and boast not thyself in the time of thy distress. ²⁷ Better is he that laboureth, and aboundeth in all things, than he that boasteth himself, and wanteth bread.

²⁸ My son, glorify thy soul in meekness, and give it honour according to the dignity thereof. ²⁹ Who will justify him that sinneth against his own soul? and who will honour him that dishonoureth his own life? ³⁰ The poor man is honoured for his skill, and the rich man is honoured for his riches. ³¹ He that is honoured in poverty, how much more in riches? and he that is dishonourable in riches, how much more in poverty?

Wisdom lifteth up the head of him that is of low degree, and maketh him to sit among great men. ² Commend not a man for his beauty; neither abhor a man for his outward appearance. ³ The bee is little among such as fly; but her fruit is the chief of sweet things. ⁴ Boast not of thy clothing and raiment, and exalt not thyself in the day of honour: for the works of the Lord are wonderful, and his works among men are hidden. ⁵ Many kings have sat down upon the ground; and one that was never thought of hath worn the crown. ⁶ Many mighty men have been greatly disgraced; and the honourable delivered into other men's hands. ⁷ Blame not before thou hast examined the truth: understand first, and then rebuke. ⁸ Answer not before thou hast heard the cause: neither interrupt men in the midst of their talk. ⁹ Strive not in a matter that concerneth thee not; and sit not in judgment with sinners.

¹⁰ My son, meddle not with many matters: for if thou meddle much, thou shalt not be innocent; and if thou follow after, thou shalt not obtain, neither shalt thou escape by fleeing. ¹¹ There is one that laboureth, and taketh pains, and maketh haste, and is so much the more behind. ¹² Again, there is another that is slow, and hath need of help, wanting ability, and full of poverty; yet the eye of the Lord looked upon him for good, and set him up from his low estate, ¹³ and lifted up his head from misery; so that many that saw it marvelled at him.

¹⁴ Prosperity and adversity, life and death, poverty and riches, come of the Lord. ¹⁷ The gift of the Lord remaineth with the godly, and his favour bringeth prosperity for ever. ¹⁸ There is that waxeth rich by his wariness and pinching, and this is the portion of his reward: ¹⁹ whereas he saith, I have found rest, and now will eat continually of my goods; and yet he knoweth not what time shall come upon him, and that he must leave those things to others, and die. ²⁰ Be stedfast in thy covenant, and be conversant therein, and wax old in thy work. ²¹ Marvel not at the works of sinners; but trust in the Lord, and abide in thy labour: for it is an easy thing in the sight of the Lord on the sudden to make a poor man rich.

²² The blessing of the Lord is in the reward of the godly, and suddenly he maketh his blessing to flourish. ²³ Say not, What profit is there of my service? and what good things shall I have hereafter? ²⁴ Again, say not, I have enough, and possess many things, and what evil can come to me hereafter? ²⁵ In the day of prosperity there is a forgetfulness of affliction: and in the day of affliction there is no more remem-

brance of prosperity. ²⁶ For it is an easy thing unto the Lord in the day of death to reward a man according to his ways. ²⁷ The affliction of an hour maketh a man forget pleasure: and in his end his deeds shall be discovered. ²⁸ Judge none blessed before his death: for a man shall be known in his children.

²⁹ Bring not every man into thine house: for the deceitful man hath many trains. ³⁰ Like as a partridge taken [and kept] in a cage, so is the heart of the proud: and like as a spy, watcheth he for thy fall: ³¹ for he lieth in wait, and turneth good into evil, and in things worthy praise will lay blame upon thee. ³² Of a spark of fire a heap of coals is kindled: and a sinful man layeth wait for blood. ³³ Take heed of a mischievous man, for he worketh wickedness: lest he bring upon thee a perpetual blot. ³⁴ Receive a stranger into thine house, and he will disturb thee, and turn thee out of thine own.

When thou wilt do good, know to whom thou doest it; so shalt thou be thanked for thy benefits. ² Do good to the godly man, and thou shalt find a recompence; and if not from him, yet from the most High. ³ There can no good come to him that is always occupied in evil, nor to him that giveth no alms. ⁴ Give to the godly man, and help not a sinner. ⁵ Do well unto him that is lowly, but give not to the ungodly: hold back thy bread, and give it not unto him, lest he overmaster thee thereby: for [else] thou shalt receive twice as much evil for all the good thou shalt have done unto him. ⁶ For the most High hateth sinners, and will repay vengeance unto the ungodly, and keepeth them against the mighty day of their punishment.

⁷ Give unto the good, and help not the sinner. ⁸ A friend cannot be known in prosperity: and an enemy cannot be hidden in adversity. ⁹ In the prosperity of a man enemies will be grieved: but in his adversity even a friend will depart. ¹⁰ Never trust thine enemy: for like as iron rusteth, so is his wickedness. ¹¹ Though he humble himself, and go crouching, yet take good heed and beware of him, and thou shalt be unto him as if thou hadst wiped a looking-glass, and thou shalt know that his rust hath not been altogether wiped away. ¹² Set him not by thee, lest, when he hath overthrown thee, he stand up in thy place; neither let him sit at thy right hand, lest he seek to take thy seat, and thou at the last remember my words, and be pricked therewith.

¹³ Who will pity a charmer that is bitten with a serpent, or any such as come nigh wild beasts? ¹⁴ So one that goeth to a sinner, and is defiled with him in his sins, who will pity? ¹⁵ For a while he will abide with thee, but if thou begin to fall, he will not tarry. ¹⁶ An enemy speaketh sweetly with his lips, but in his heart he imagineth how to throw thee into a pit: he will weep with his eyes, but if he find opportunity, he will not be satisfied with blood. ¹⁷ If adversity come upon thee, thou shalt find him there first; and though he pretend to help thee, yet shall he undermine thee. ¹⁸ He will shake his head, and clap his hands, and whisper much, and change his countenance,

He that toucheth pitch shall be defiled therewith; and he that hath fellowship with a proud man shall be like unto him. ² Burden not thyself above thy power while thou livest; and have no fellowship with one that is mightier and richer than thyself: for how agree the

μνησθήσεται ἀγαθῶν· ὅτι κοῦφον ἔναντι Κυρίου ἐν ἡμέρᾳ 26
τελευτῆς ἀποδοῦναι ἀνθρώπῳ κατὰ τὰς ὁδοὺς αὐτοῦ. Κά- 27
κωσις ὥρας ἐπιλησμονὴν ποιεῖ τρυφῆς, καὶ ἐν συντελείᾳ
ἀνθρώπου ἀποκάλυψις ἔργων αὐτοῦ. Πρὸ τελευτῆς μὴ 28
μακάριζε μηδένα, καὶ ἐν τέκνοις αὐτῶν γνωσθήσεται ἀνὴρ.

Μὴ πάντα ἄνθρωπον εἰσαγε εἰς τὸν οἶκόν σου, πολλὰ 29
γὰρ τὰ ἔνδρα τοῦ δολίου. Πέρδιξ θηρευτῆς ἐν καρτάλλῳ, 30
οὕτως καρδιά ὑπερηφάνου, καὶ ὡς ὁ κατὰσκοπος ἐπιβλέπει
πτῶσιν. Τὰ γὰρ ἀγαθὰ εἰς κακὰ μεταστρέφων ἐνεδρεύει, 31
καὶ ἐν τοῖς αἵρετοῖς ἐπιθήσει μῶμον. Ἀπὸ σπινθήρος 32
πυρὸς πληθύνεται ἀνθρακία, καὶ ἄνθρωπος ἁμαρτωλὸς εἰς
αἷμα ἐνεδρεύει. Πρόσεχε ἀπὸ κακούργου, πονηρὰ γὰρ 33
τεκταίνει, μήποτε μῶμον εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα δῶ σοι. Ἐνοίκισον 34
ἀλλότριον, καὶ διαστρέψει σε ἐν ταραχαῖς, καὶ ἀπαλλοτρι-
ώσει σε τῶν ἰδίων σου.

Ἐὰν εὖ ποιῇς, γνῶθι τίνι ποιεῖς, καὶ ἔσται χάρις τοῖς 12
ἀγαθοῖς σου. Εὐποίησον εὐσεβεῖ, καὶ εὐρήσεις ἀναπαύδομα, 2
καὶ εἰ μὴ παρ' αὐτοῦ, ἀλλὰ παρὰ ὑψίστου. Οὐκ ἔστιν ἀγαθὰ 3
τῷ ἐνελεχίζοντι εἰς κακὰ, καὶ τῷ ἐλεημοσύνην μὴ χαρι-
ζομένῳ. Δὸς τῷ εὐσεβεῖ, καὶ μὴ ἀντιλάβῃ τοῦ ἁμαρτωλοῦ. 4
Εὐποίησον τῷ ταπεινῷ, καὶ μὴ δῶς ἀσεβεῖ· ἐμπόδισον τοὺς 5
ἄρτους αὐτοῦ, καὶ μὴ δῶς αὐτῷ ἵνα μὴ ἐν αὐτοῖς σε
δυναστεύῃ· διπλάσια γὰρ κακὰ εὐρήσεις ἐν πᾶσιν ἀγαθοῖς
οἷς ἂν ποιήσῃς αὐτῷ. Ὅτι καὶ ὁ ὑψιστος ἐμίσησεν ἁμαρ- 6
τωλοὺς, καὶ τοῖς ἀσεβέσιν ἀποδώσει ἐκδίκησιν.

Δὸς τῷ ἀγαθῷ, καὶ μὴ ἀντιλάβῃ τοῦ ἁμαρτωλοῦ. Οὐκ 7, 8
ἐκδικηθήσεται ἐν ἀγαθοῖς ὁ φίλος, καὶ οὐ κρυβήσεται ἐν κακοῖς
ὁ ἐχθρὸς. Ἐν ἀγαθοῖς ἀνδρὸς οἱ ἐχθροὶ αὐτοῦ ἐν λύπῃ, καὶ 9
ἐν τοῖς κακοῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ ὁ φίλος διαχωρισθήσεται. Μὴ 10
πιστεύσῃς τῷ ἐχθρῷ σου εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα· ὡς γὰρ ὁ χαλκὸς
ιοῦται, οὕτως ἡ πονηρία αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐὰν ταπεινωθῇ καὶ 11
πορεύῃται συγκεκυφῶς, ἐπίστησον τὴν ψυχὴν σου καὶ
φύλαξε ἀπ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔσῃ αὐτῷ ὡς ἐκμεμαχὼς ἔσοπτρον,
καὶ γνώσῃ ὅτι οὐκ εἰς τέλος κατίωσε. Μὴ στήσῃς αὐτὸν 12
παρὰ σεαυτὸν, μὴ ἀνατρέψας σε στή· ἐπὶ τὸν τόπον σου·
μὴ καθίσῃς αὐτὸν ἐκ δεξιῶν σου, μήποτε ζητήσῃ τὴν καθέ-
δραν σου, καὶ ἐπ' ἐσχάτῳ ἐπιγνώσῃ τοὺς λόγους μου, καὶ
ἐπὶ τῶν ῥημάτων μου κατανυγήσῃ.

Τίς ἐλέησει ἐπαοιδὸν ὀφιοῦδηκτον, καὶ πάντας τοὺς προσ- 13
άγοντας θηρίους; Οὕτως τὸν προσπορευόμενον ἀνδρὶ ἁμαρ- 14
τωλῷ καὶ συμφυρόμενον ἐν ταῖς ἁμαρτίαις αὐτοῦ. Ὡραν μετὰ 15
σοῦ διαμενεῖ, καὶ ἐὰν ἐκκλίνῃς, οὐ μὴ καρτερήσῃ. Καὶ ἐν 16
τοῖς χεῖλεσιν αὐτοῦ γλυκαίνει ὁ ἐχθρὸς, καὶ ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ
αὐτοῦ βουλευσεται ἀνατρέψαι σε εἰς βόθρον· ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς
αὐτοῦ δακρύσει ὁ ἐχθρὸς, καὶ ἐὰν εὖρη καιρὸν, οὐκ ἐμπλησθή-
σεται ἀφ' αἵματος. Κακὰ ἂν ὑπαντήσῃ σοι, εὐρήσεις αὐτὸν 17
ἐκεῖ πρότερόν σου, καὶ ὡς βοηθῶν ὑποσχάσει πτέρναν σου.
Κινήσει τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπικροτήσῃ ταῖς χερσὶν αὐτοῦ, 18
καὶ πολλὰ διαψιθυρίσει, καὶ ἀλλοιώσει τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ.

Ὁ ἀπτομενος πίσεως μολυνθήσεται, καὶ ὁ κοινωνῶν 13
ὑπερηφάνῳ ὁμοιωθήσεται αὐτῷ. Βάρος ὑπὲρ σέ μὴ ἄρῃς, 2
καὶ ἰσχυρότέρῳ σου καὶ πλουσιωτέρῳ μὴ κοινωνῶν· τί

κοινωνήσει χύτρα πρὸς λέβητα; αὕτη προσκρούσει, καὶ αὕτη συντριβήσεται.

- 3 Πλούσιος ἠδίκησε, καὶ αὐτὸς προσεनेβριμήσατο· πτωχὸς ἠδίκηται, καὶ αὐτὸς προσδεθήσεται. Ἐὰν χρησιμεύσης, 4 ἐργάται ἐν σοί· καὶ ἐὰν ὑστερήσης, καταλείψει σε. Ἐὰν ἔχῃς, συμβιώσεται σοι, καὶ ἀποκενώσει σε, καὶ αὐτὸς οὐ 5 πονέσει. Χρεῖαν ἔσχηκέ σου, καὶ ἀποπλανήσει σε, καὶ προσγελάσεται σοι, καὶ δώσει σοι ἐλπίδα· λαλήσει σοι 6 καλὰ, καὶ ἐρεῖ, τίς ἡ χρεῖά σου; Καὶ αἰσχυνέι σε ἐν τοῖς βρώμασιν αὐτοῦ, ἕως οὐ ἀποκενώσῃ σε δις ἢ τρίς, καὶ ἐπ' ἐσχάτῳ καταμωκῆσεται σου· μετὰ ταῦτα ὀψεται σε, καὶ καταλείψει σε, καὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ κινήσει ἐπὶ σοί. 7 Πρόσεχε μὴ ἀποπλανηθῇς, καὶ μὴ ταπεινωθῇς ἐν εὐφροσύνῃ σου. 8 Προσκαλεσαμένου σε δυνάστου, ὑποχωρῶν γίνου, καὶ 9 τόσῳ μᾶλλον προσκαλέσεται σε. Μὴ ἐμπιπτε ἵνα μὴ ἀπωσθῇς, καὶ μὴ μακρὰν ἀφιστῶ ἵνα μὴ ἐπιλησθῇς. Μὴ 10 ἔπεχε εἰσηγορεῖσθαι μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ μὴ πιστεύε τοῖς πλείοσι λόγοις αὐτοῦ· ἐκ πολλῆς γὰρ λαλιᾶς πειράσει σε, καὶ ὡς 11 προσγελῶν ἐξετάσει. Ἀνελεήμων ὁ μὴ συντηρῶν λόγους, 12 καὶ οὐ μὴ φείσεται περὶ κακώσεως καὶ δεσμῶν. Συντήρησον καὶ πρόσεχε σφοδρῶς, ὅτι μετὰ τῆς πτώσεώς σου περιπατεῖς. 13 Πᾶν ζῶον ἀγαπᾷ τὸ ὅμοιον αὐτῷ, καὶ πᾶς ἄνθρωπος τὸν 14 πλησίον αὐτοῦ. Πᾶσα σὰρξ κατὰ γένος συνάγεται, καὶ τῷ ὁμοίῳ αὐτοῦ προσκολληθήσεται ἀνὴρ. Τί κοινωνήσει λύκος 15 ἀμνῷ; οὕτως ἁμαρτωλὸς πρὸς εὐσεβῆ. Τίς εἰρήνη ὑαῖνη 16 πρὸς κύνα; καὶ τίς εἰρήνη πλουσίῳ πρὸς πένητα; Κυνήγια 17 λεόντων ὄναγροι ἐν ἐρήμῳ, οὕτως νομαὶ πλουσίων πτωχοί. 18 Βδέλυγμα ὑπερηφάνῳ ταπεινότης, οὕτως βδέλυγμα πλουσίῳ 19 πτωχός. 20 Πλούσιος σαλευόμενος στηρίζεται ὑπὸ φίλων, ταπεινὸς δὲ 21 πεσὼν προσαπωθεῖται ὑπὸ φίλων. Πλουσίου σφαλέντος πολλοὶ ἀντιλήπτορες, ἐλάλησεν ἀπόρρητα καὶ ἐδικαίωσαν 22 αὐτόν· ταπεινὸς ἔσφαλε καὶ προσεπετίμησαν αὐτῷ, ἐφθέγγατο 23 σύνεσιν καὶ οὐκ ἐδόθη αὐτῷ τόπος. Πλούσιος ἐλάλησε καὶ πάντες ἐσίγησαν, καὶ τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ ἀνύψωσαν ἕως τῶν νεφελῶν· πτωχὸς ἐλάλησε, καὶ εἶπαν, τίς οὗτος; 24 καὶ προσκόψῃ, προσανατρέφουσιν αὐτόν. Ἀγαθὸς ὁ πλοῦτος ὃ μὴ ἔστιν ἁμαρτία, καὶ πονηρὰ ἡ πτωχεία ἐν στόμασιν ἀσεβοῦς. 25 Καρδία ἀνθρώπου ἄλλοιοι τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ, ἐὰν εἰς 26 ἀγαθὰ ἢ εἰς κακά. Ἰχνος καρδίας ἐν ἀγαθοῖς πρόσωπον ἰλαρὸν, καὶ εὖρεσις παραβολῶν διαλογισμοὶ μετὰ κόπου. 14 Μακάριος ἀνὴρ ὃς οὐκ ὠλίσθησεν ἐν στόματι αὐτοῦ, καὶ 2 οὐ κατενύγη ἐν λύπῃ ἁμαρτίας. Μακάριος οὗ οὐ κατέγνω ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὃς οὐκ ἔπεσεν ἀπὸ τῆς ἐλπίδος αὐτοῦ. 3 Ἀνδρὶ μικρολόγῳ οὐ καλὸς ὁ πλοῦτος, καὶ ἀνθρώπῳ 4 βασκάνῳ ἱνατί χρήματα; Ὁ συνάγων ἀπὸ τῆς ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ, συνάγει ἄλλοις, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς αὐτοῦ τρυφῇ- 5 σουσιν ἔτεροι. Ὁ πονηρὸς ἐαυτῷ, τίνι ἀγαθὸς ἔσται; καὶ

kettle and the earthen pot together? for if the one be smitten against the other, it shall be broken.

³ The rich man hath done wrong, and yet he threateneth withal: the poor is wronged, and he must intreat also. ⁴ If thou be for his profit, he will use thee; but if thou have nothing, he will forsake thee. ⁵ If thou have any thing, he will live with thee: yea, he will make thee bare, and will not be sorry for it. ⁶ If he have need of thee, he will deceive thee, and smile upon thee, and put thee in hope; he will speak thee fair, and say, What wantest thou? ⁷ And he will shame thee by his meats, until he have drawn thee dry twice or thrice, and at the last he will laugh thee to scorn: afterward, when he seeth thee, he will forsake thee, and shake his head at thee. ⁸ Beware that thou be not deceived, and brought down in thy jollity.

⁹ If thou be invited of a mighty man, withdraw thyself, and so much the more will he invite thee. ¹⁰ Press thou not upon him, lest thou be put back; stand not far off, lest thou be forgotten. ¹¹ Affect not to be made equal unto him in talk, and believe not his many words: for with much communication will he tempt thee, and smiling upon thee will get out thy secrets: ¹² but cruelly he will lay up thy words, and will not spare to do thee hurt, and to put thee in prison. ¹³ Observe, and take good heed, for thou walkest in peril of thy overthrowing: when thou hearest these things, awake in thy sleep.

¹⁵ Every beast loveth his like, and every man loveth his neighbour. ¹⁶ All flesh consorteth according to kind, and a man will cleave to his like. ¹⁷ What fellowship hath the wolf with the lamb? so the sinner with the godly. ¹⁸ What agreement is there between the hyena and a dog? and what peace between the rich and the poor? ¹⁹ As the wild ass is the lion's prey in the wilderness: so the rich eat up the poor. ²⁰ As the proud hate humility: so doth the rich abhor the poor.

²¹ A rich man beginning to fall is held up of his friends: but a poor man being down is thrust also away by his friends. ²² When a rich man is fallen, he hath many helpers: he speaketh things not to be spoken, and yet men justify him: the poor man slipped, and yet they rebuked him too; he spake wisely, and could have no place. ²³ When a rich man speaketh, every man holdeth his tongue, and, look, what he saith, they extol it to the clouds: but if the poor man speak, they say, What fellow is this? and if he stumble, they will help to overthrow him. ²⁴ Riches are good unto him that hath no sin, and poverty is evil in the mouth of the ungodly.

²⁵ The heart of a man changeth his countenance, whether it be for good or evil. ²⁶ A cheerful countenance is a token of a heart that is in prosperity; and the finding out of parables is a wearisome labour of the mind.

Blessed is the man that hath not slipped with his mouth, and is not pricked with the multitude of sins. ² Blessed is he whose conscience hath not condemned him, and who is not fallen from his hope in the Lord.

³ Riches are not comely for a niggard: and what should an envious man do with money? ⁴ He that gathereth by defrauding his own soul gathereth for others that shall spend his goods riotously. ⁵ He that is evil to himself,

to whom will he be good? he shall not take pleasure in his goods. ⁶There is none worse than he that envieth himself; and this is a recompence of his wickedness. ⁷And if he doeth good, he doeth it unwillingly; and at the last he will declare his wickedness. ⁸The envious man hath a wicked eye; he turneth away his face, and despiseth men. ⁹A covetous man's eye is not satisfied with his portion; and the iniquity of the wicked drieth up his soul. ¹⁰A wicked eye envieth [his] bread, and he is a niggard at his table.

¹¹My son, according to thy ability do good to thyself, and give the Lord his due offering. ¹²Remember that death will not be long in coming, and that the covenant of the grave is not shewed unto thee. ¹³Do good unto thy friend before thou die, and according to thy ability stretch out thy hand and give to him. ¹⁴Defraud not thyself of the good day, and let not the part of a good desire overpass thee. ¹⁵Shalt thou not leave thy travails unto another? and thy labours to be divided by lot? ¹⁶Give, and take, and sanctify thy soul; for there is no seeking of dainties in the grave. ¹⁷All flesh waxeth old as a garment: for the covenant from the beginning is, Thou shalt die the death. ¹⁸As of the green leaves on a thick tree, some fall, and some grow: so is the generation of flesh and blood, one cometh to an end, and another is born. ¹⁹Every work roteth and consumeth away, and the worker thereof shall go withal.

²⁰Blessed is the man that doth meditate good things in wisdom, and that reasoneth of holy things by his understanding. ²¹He that considereth her ways in his heart shall also have understanding in her secrets. ²²Go after her as one that traceth, and lie in wait in her ways. ²³He that prieth in at her windows shall also hearken at her doors. ²⁴He that doth lodge near her house shall also fasten a pin in her walls. ²⁵He shall pitch his tent nigh unto her, and shall lodge in a lodging where good things are. ²⁶He shall set his children under her shelter, and shall lodge under her branches. ²⁷By her he shall be covered from heat, and in her glory shall he dwell.

He that feareth the Lord will do good; and he that hath the knowledge of the law shall obtain her; ²and as a mother shall she meet him, and receive him as a wife married of a virgin. ³With the bread of understanding shall she feed him, and give him the water of wisdom to drink. ⁴He shall be stayed upon her, and shall not be moved; and shall rely upon her, and shall not be confounded. ⁵She shall exalt him above his neighbours, and in the midst of the congregation shall she open his mouth. ⁶He shall find joy and a crown of gladness, and she shall cause him to inherit an everlasting name. ⁷But foolish men shall not attain unto her, and sinners shall not see her. ⁸For she is far from pride, and men that are liars cannot remember her.

⁹Praise is not seemly in the mouth of a sinner, for it was not sent him of the Lord. ¹⁰For praise shall be uttered in wisdom, and the Lord will prosper it. ¹¹Say not thou, It is through the Lord that I fell away: for thou oughtest not to do the things that he hateth. ¹²Say not thou, He hath caused me to err: for he hath no need of the sinful man.

οὐ μὴ εὐφρανθήσεται ἐν τοῖς χρήμασιν αὐτοῦ. Τοῦ βασκαί- 6
νοντος ἑαυτὸν οὐκ ἔστι πονηρότερος, καὶ τοῦτο ἀνταπόδομα 7
τῆς κακίας αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐν ποιῇ, ἐν λήθῃ ποιεῖ, καὶ ἐπ' ἐσχά- 7
των ἐκφαίνει τὴν κακίαν αὐτοῦ. Πονηρὸς ὁ βασκαίνων 8
ὀφθαλμῷ, ἀποστρέφων πρόσωπον καὶ ὁ ὑπερορῶν ψυχάς.
Πλεονέκτου ὀφθαλμὸς οὐκ ἐμπίπλῃται μερίδι, καὶ ἀδικία 9
πονηρὰ ἀναξηραίνει ψυχὴν. Ὁφθαλμὸς πονηρὸς φθονερὸς 10
ἐπ' ἄρτῳ, καὶ ἑλλιπὴς ἐπὶ τῆς τραπέζης αὐτοῦ.

Τέκνον, καθὼς ἂν ἔχεις εὐποίει σεαυτὸν, καὶ προσφοράς 11
Κυρίῳ ἀξίως πρόσαγε. Μνήσθητι ὅτι θάνατος οὐ χρονεῖ, 12
καὶ διαθήκη ἄδου οὐχ ὑπεδείχθη σοι. Πρὶν σε τελευτήσαι 13
εὐποίει φίλῳ, καὶ κατὰ τὴν ἰσχύν σου ἔκτεινον καὶ δὸς αὐτῷ.
Μὴ ἀφυστερήσης ἀπὸ ἀγαθῆς ἡμέρας, καὶ μερὶς ἐπιθυμίας 14
ἀγαθῆς μὴ σε παρελθάτω. Οὐχὶ ἐτέρῳ καταλείψεις τοὺς 15
πόνους σου, καὶ τοὺς κόπους σου εἰς διαίρεσιν κλήρου;
Δὸς καὶ λάβε, καὶ ἀπάτησον τὴν ψυχὴν σου, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν 16
ἐν ἄδου ζητῆσαι τρυφὴν. Πᾶσα σὰρξ ὡς ἱμάτιον παλαιού- 17
ται, ἡ γὰρ διαθήκη ἀπ' αἰῶνος θανάτῳ ἀποθανῇ. Ὡς φύλ- 18
λον θάλλον ἐπὶ δένδρου δασέος, τὰ μὲν καταβάλλει, ἄλλα
δὲ φύει· οὕτως γενεὰ σαρκὸς καὶ αἵματος, ἡ μὲν τελευτᾷ,
ἑτέρα δὲ γεννᾶται. Πᾶν ἔργον σηπόμενον ἐκλείπει, καὶ 19
ὁ ἐργαζόμενος αὐτὸ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἀπελεύσεται.

Μακάριος ἀνὴρ ὃς ἐν σοφίᾳ τελευτήσῃ, καὶ ὃς ἐν συνέσει 20
αὐτοῦ διαλεχθήσεται· ὃ διανοούμενος τὰς ὁδοὺς αὐτῆς ἐν 21
καρδίᾳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἀποκρύφους αὐτῆς νοηθήσεται.
Ἐξέλθε ὀπίσω αὐτῆς ὡς ἰχνευτῆς, καὶ ἐν ταῖς εἰσόδους αὐτῆς 22
ἐνέδρευε. Ὁ παρακύπτων διὰ τῶν θυρίδων αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐπὶ 23
τῶν θυρωμάτων αὐτῆς ἀκροάσεται· ὁ καταλύων σύνεγγυς 24
τοῦ οἴκου αὐτῆς, καὶ πῆξει πάσσαλον ἐν τοῖς τοίχοις αὐτῆς.
Στήσῃ τὴν σκηνὴν αὐτοῦ κατὰ χεῖρας αὐτῆς, καὶ καταλύσει 25
ἐν καταλύματι ἀγαθῶν. Θήσῃ τὰ τέκνα αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ σκέπῃ 26
αὐτῆς, καὶ ὑπὸ τοὺς κλάδους αὐτῆς αὐλισθήσεται. Σκεπα- 27
σθήσεται ὑπ' αὐτῆς ἀπὸ καύματος, καὶ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ αὐτῆς
καταλύσει.

Ὁ φοβούμενος Κύριον ποιήσῃ αὐτὸ, καὶ ὁ ἐγκρατὴς τοῦ 15
νόμου καταλήψεται αὐτήν· καὶ ὑπαντήσεται αὐτῷ ὡς μήτηρ, 2
καὶ ὡς γυνὴ παρθενίας προσδέξεται αὐτόν· ψωμιεῖ αὐτόν 3
ἄρτον συνέσεως, καὶ ὕδωρ σοφίας ποτίσει αὐτόν. Στηριχ- 4
θήσεται ἐπ' αὐτήν καὶ οὐ μὴ κλιθῇ, καὶ ἐπ' αὐτῆς ἐφέξει
καὶ οὐ μὴ καταισχυνηθῇ. Καὶ ὑψώσει αὐτόν παρὰ τοὺς 5
πλησίον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν μέσῳ ἐκκλησίας ἀνοίξει στόμα αὐτοῦ.
Εὐφροσύνην καὶ στέφανον ἀγαλλιάματος καὶ ὄνομα αἰώνιον 6
κατακληρονομήσει. Οὐ μὴ καταλήψονται αὐτήν ἄνθρωποι 7
ἀσύνετοι, καὶ ἄνδρες ἁμαρτωλοὶ οὐ μὴ ἴδωσιν αὐτήν.
Μακράν ἐστὶν ὑπερηφανίας, καὶ ἄνδρες ψεῦσται οὐ μὴ μνη- 8
σθήσονται αὐτῆς.

Οὐχ ὥραϊος αἶνος ἐν στόματι ἁμαρτωλοῦ, ὅτι οὐ παρὰ 9
Κυρίου ἀπεστάλη. Ἐν γὰρ σοφίᾳ ῥηθήσεται αἶνος, καὶ 10
ὁ Κύριος εὐδοώσει αὐτόν. Μὴ εἴπῃς, ὅτι διὰ Κύριον 11
ἀπέστην· ἃ γὰρ ἐμίσησεν, οὐ ποιήσεις. Μὴ εἴπῃς, ὅτι 12
αὐτὸς μέ ἐπλάνησεν· οὐ γὰρ χρεῖαν ἔχει ἄνδρὸς ἁμαρ-
τωλοῦ.

13 Πάν βδέλυγμα ἐμίσησε Κύριος, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀγαπητὸν
14 τοῖς φοβουμένοις αὐτόν. Αὐτὸς ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἐποίησεν ἄνθρω-
15 πον, καὶ ἀφῆκεν αὐτὸν ἐν χειρὶ διαβουλίου αὐτοῦ. Ἐὰν
θέλῃς, συντηρήσεις ἐντολὰς, καὶ πίστιν ποιῆσαι εὐδοκίας.
16 Παρέθηκε σοι πῦρ καὶ ὕδωρ, οὗ ἔαν θέλῃς ἐκτενεῖς τὴν
17 χεῖρά σου. Ἐναντι ἀνθρώπων ἡ ζωὴ καὶ ὁ θάνατος, καὶ ὁ
18 ἔαν εὐδοκήσῃ δοθήσεται αὐτῷ. Ὅτι πολλὴ σοφία τοῦ
19 Κυρίου, ἰσχυρὸς ἐν δυναστείᾳ καὶ βλέπων τὰ πάντα. Καὶ
οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τοὺς φοβουμένους αὐτόν, καὶ αὐτὸς
20 ἐπιγινώσκει πᾶν ἔργον ἀνθρώπου. Καὶ οὐκ ἐνετείλατο
οὐδενὶ ἀσεβεῖν, καὶ οὐκ ἔδωκεν ἄνεσιν οὐδενὶ ἀμαρτάνειν.

16 Μὴ ἐπιθύμει τέκνων πλήθος ἀχρήστων, μὴ εὐφραίνου ἐπὶ
2 υἱοῖς ἀσεβέσιν. Ἐὰν πληθύνωσι, μὴ εὐφραίνου ἐπ' αὐτοῖς,
3 εἰ μὴ ἔστι φόβος Κυρίου μετ' αὐτῶν. Μὴ ἐμπιστεύσῃς τῇ
ζωῇ αὐτῶν, καὶ μὴ ἔπεχε ἐπὶ τὸν τόπον αὐτῶν· κρείσσων
γὰρ εἷς ἢ χίλιοι, καὶ ἀποθανεῖν ἄτεκνον ἢ ἔχειν τέκνα ἀσεβή·
4 ἀπὸ γὰρ ἐνὸς συνετοῦ συνοικισθήσεται πόλις, φυλὴ δὲ ἀνό-
5 μων ἐρημωθήσεται. Πολλὰ τοιαῦτα ἑώρακα ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς
μου, καὶ ἰσχυρότερα τούτων ἀκήκοε τὸ οὖς μου.

6 Ἐν συναγωγῇ ἀμαρτωλῶν ἐκκαυθήσεται πῦρ, καὶ ἐν ἔθνει
7 ἀπειθεὶ ἐξεκαύθη ὀργή. Οὐκ ἐξέλασато περὶ τῶν ἀρχαίων
8 γιγάντων, οἱ ἀπέστησαν τῇ ἰσχυρί αὐτῶν. Οὐκ ἐφέισατο
περὶ τῆς παροικίας Λὼτ, οὗς ἐβδελύξατο διὰ τὴν ὑπερφη-
9 νίαν αὐτῶν. Οὐκ ἠλέησεν ἔθνος ἀπωλείας, τοὺς ἐξηρμένους
10 ἐν ἀμαρτίαις αὐτῶν· καὶ οὕτως ἐξακοσίας χιλιάδας πεζῶν
11 τοὺς ἐπισυναχθέντας ἐν σκληροκαρδίᾳ αὐτῶν. Κἂν ἡ εἷς
σκληροτράχηλος, θαυμαστὸν, τοῦτο εἰ ἀθωωθήσεται, ἔλεος
γὰρ καὶ ὀργὴ παρ' αὐτοῦ· δυνάστης ἐξιλασμῶν· καὶ ἐκχέων
ὀργήν.

12 Κατὰ τὸ πολὺ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ, οὕτως καὶ πολλὸς ὁ ἔλεγχος
13 αὐτοῦ· ἄνδρα κατὰ τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ κρίνει. Οὐκ ἐκφεύζεται
ἐν ἀρπάγμασιν ἀμαρτωλὸς, καὶ οὐ μὴ καθυστερήσει ὑπο-
14 μὴν εὐσεβοῦς. Πάσῃ ἐλεημοσύνῃ ποιήσει τρόπον, ἕκα-
στος κατὰ τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ εὐρήσει.

17 Μὴ εἴπῃς, ὅτι ἀπὸ Κυρίου κρυβήσομαι, μὴ ἐξ ὕψους τίς
μου μνησθήσεται; ἐν λαῷ πλείονι οὐ μὴ μνησθῶ, τίς γὰρ
18 ἡ ψυχὴ μου ἐν ἀμετρήτῳ κτίσει; Ἴδου ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ὁ
οὐρανὸς τοῦ οὐρανοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἄβυσσος καὶ γῆ σαλευθή-
19 σονται ἐν τῇ ἐπισκοπῇ αὐτοῦ· ἅμα τὰ ὄρη καὶ τὰ θεμέλια
20 τῆς γῆς, ἐν τῷ ἐπιβλέψαι εἰς αὐτὰ, τρόμῳ συσσειόνται, καὶ
ἐπ' αὐτοῖς οὐ διανοηθήσεται καρδίᾳ· καὶ τὰς ὁδοὺς αὐτοῦ τίς
21 ἐνθυμηθήσεται; Καὶ καταγίς, ἣν οὐκ ὄψεται ἄνθρωπος,
22 τὰ δὲ πλείονα τῶν ἔργων αὐτοῦ ἐν ἀποκρύφοις. Ἔργα
δικαιοσύνης τίς ἀναγγελεῖ, ἢ τίς ὑπομενεῖ; μακρὰν γὰρ ἡ
23 διαθήκη. Ἐλαττούμενος καρδίᾳ διανοεῖται ταῦτα, καὶ ἀνὴρ
ἄφρων καὶ πλανώμενος διανοεῖται μωρά.

24 Ἀκουσόν μου, τέκνον, καὶ μάθε ἐπιστήμην, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν
25 λόγων μου πρόσεχε τῇ καρδίᾳ σου. Ἐκφαίνω ἐν σταθμῷ
26 παιδείαν, καὶ ἐν ἀκριβείᾳ ἀπαγγέλλω ἐπιστήμην. Ἐν

¹³ The Lord hateth all abomination; and they that fear God love it not. ¹⁴ He himself made man from the beginning, and left him in the hand of his counsel; ¹⁵ if thou wilt, to keep the commandments, and to perform acceptable faithfulness. ¹⁶ He hath set fire and water before thee: stretch forth thy hand unto whether thou wilt. ¹⁷ Before man is life and death; and whether he liketh shall be given him. ¹⁸ For the wisdom of the Lord is great, and he is mighty in power, and beholdeth all things: ¹⁹ and his eyes are upon them that fear him, and he knoweth every work of man. ²⁰ He hath commanded no man to do wickedly, neither hath he given any man licence to sin.

Desire not a multitude of unprofitable children, neither delight in ungodly sons. ² Though they multiply, rejoice not in them, except the fear of the Lord be with them. ³ Trust not thou in their life, neither respect their multitude: for one that is just is better than a thousand; and better it is to die without children, than to have them that are ungodly. ⁴ For by one that hath understanding shall the city be replenished: but the kindred of the wicked shall speedily become desolate. ⁵ Many such things have I seen with mine eyes, and mine ear hath heard greater things than these.

⁶ In the congregation of the ungodly shall a fire be kindled; and in a rebellious nation wrath is set on fire. ⁷ He was not pacified toward the old giants, who fell away in the strength of their foolishness. ⁸ Neither spared he the place where Lot sojourned, but abhorred them for their pride. ⁹ He pitied not the people of perdition, who were taken away in their sins: ¹⁰ nor the six hundred thousand footmen, who were gathered together in the hardness of their hearts. ¹¹ And if there be one stiffnecked among the people, it is marvel if he escape unpunished: for mercy and wrath are with him; he is mighty to forgive, and to pour out displeasure.

¹² As his mercy is great, so is his correction also: he judgeth a man according to his works. ¹³ The sinner shall not escape with his spoils: and the patience of the godly shall not be frustrate. ¹⁴ Make way for every work of mercy: for every man shall find according to his works.

¹⁷ Say not thou, I will hide myself from the Lord: shall any remember me from above? I shall not be remembered among so many people: for what is my soul among such an infinite number of creatures? ¹⁸ Behold, the heaven, and the heaven of heavens, the deep, and the earth, and all that therein is, shall be moved when he shall visit. ¹⁹ The mountains also and foundations of the earth shall be shaken with trembling, when he looketh upon them. ²⁰ No heart can think upon these things worthily: and who is able to conceive his ways? ²¹ It is a tempest which no man can see: for the most part of his works are hid. ²² Who can declare the works of his justice? or who can endure them? for his covenant is afar off. ²³ He that wanteth understanding will think upon vain things: and a foolish man erring imagineth follies.

²⁴ My son, hearken unto me, and learn knowledge, and mark my words with thy heart. ²⁵ I will shew forth doctrine in weight, and declare his knowledge exactly. ²⁶ The works of the

Lord are done in judgment from the beginning: and from the time he made them he disposed the parts thereof. ²⁷ He garnished his works for ever, and the chief of them unto all generations: they neither labour, nor are weary, nor cease from their works. ²⁸ None of them hindereth another, and they shall never disobey his word. ²⁹ After this the Lord looked upon the earth, and filled it with his blessings. ³⁰ With all manner of living things hath he covered the face thereof; and they shall return into it again.

The Lord created man of the earth, and turned him into it again. ² He gave them few days, and a short time, and power also over the things therein. ³ He endued them with strength by themselves, and made them according to his image, ⁴ and put the fear of man upon all flesh, and gave him dominion over beasts and fowls. ⁵ Counsel, and a tongue, and eyes, ears, and a heart, gave he them to understand. ⁷ Withal he filled them with the knowledge of understanding, and shewed them good and evil. ⁸ He set his eye upon their hearts, that he might shew them the greatness of his works; ⁹ and they shall praise his holy name, that they may search out his marvellous works.

¹¹ Beside this he gave them knowledge, and the law of life for an heritage. ¹² He made an everlasting covenant with them, and shewed them his judgments. ¹³ Their eyes saw the majesty of his glory, and their ears heard his glorious voice. ¹⁴ And he said unto them, Beware of all unrighteousness; and he gave every man commandment concerning his neighbour. ¹⁵ Their ways are ever before him, and shall not be hid from his eyes. ¹⁷ For in the division of the nations of the whole earth he set a ruler over every people; but Israel is the Lord's portion: ¹⁹ Therefore all their works are as the sun before him, and his eyes are continually upon their ways. ²⁰ None of their unrighteous deeds are hid from him, but all their sins are before the Lord.

²² The alms of a man is as a signet with him, and he will keep the good deeds of man as the apple of the eye, and give repentance to his sons and daughters. ²³ Afterwards he will rise up and reward them; and render their recompence upon their heads. ²⁴ But unto them that repent, he granted them return, and comforted those that failed in patience.

²⁵ Return unto the Lord, and forsake thy sins, make thy prayer before his face, and offend less. ²⁶ Turn again to the most High, and turn away from iniquity: for he will lead thee out of darkness into the light of health, and hate thou abomination vehemently. ²⁷ Who shall praise the most High in the grave, instead of them which live and give thanks? ²⁸ Thanksgiving perisheth from the dead, as from one that is not: the living and sound in heart shall praise the Lord. ²⁹ How great is the loving-kindness of the Lord our God, and his compassion unto such as turn unto him in holiness! ³⁰ For all things cannot be in men, because the son of man is not immortal.

³¹ What is brighter than the sun? yet the light thereof faileth: and flesh and blood will imagine evil. ³² He vieweth the power of the height of heaven; and all men are but earth and ashes.

κρίσει Κυρίου τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, καὶ ἀπὸ ποιήσεως αὐτῶν διέστειλε μερίδας αὐτῶν. Ἐκόσμησεν εἰς αἰῶνα τὰ ²⁷ ἔργα αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὰς ἀρχὰς αὐτῶν εἰς γενεὰς αὐτῶν· οὔτε ἐπείνασαν, οὔτε ἐκοπίασαν, καὶ οὐκ ἐξέλιπον ἀπὸ τῶν ἔργων αὐτῶν. Ἐκαστος τὸν πλησίον αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔθλιψε, καὶ ἕως ²⁸ αἰῶνος οὐκ ἀπειθήσουσι τοῦ ῥήματος αὐτοῦ· καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα ²⁹ Κύριος εἰς τὴν γῆν ἐπέβλεψε, καὶ ἐνέπλησεν αὐτὴν τῶν ἀγαθῶν αὐτοῦ. Ψυχὴν παντὸς ζῶον ἐκάλυψε τὸ πρόσωπον ³⁰ αὐτῆς, καὶ εἰς αὐτὴν ἡ ἀποστροφὴ αὐτῶν.

Κύριος ἔκτισεν ἐκ γῆς ἄνθρωπον, καὶ πάλιν ἀπέστρεψεν ¹⁷ αὐτὸν εἰς αὐτήν. Ἡμέρας ἀριθμοῦ καὶ καιρὸν ἔδωκεν ² αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἐξουσίαν τῶν ἐπ' αὐτῆς. Καθ' ³ ἑαυτοὺς ἐνέδυσεν αὐτοὺς ἰσχὺν, καὶ κατ' εἰκόνα αὐτοῦ ἐποίησεν αὐτούς. Καὶ ἔθηκε τὸν φόβον αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ πάσης σαρκὸς, ⁴ καὶ κατακυριεύειν θηρίων καὶ πετεινῶν. Διαβούλιον καὶ ⁶ γλῶσσαν καὶ ὀφθαλμοὺς, ὦτα καὶ καρδίαν ἔδωκε διανοεῖσθαι αὐτοῖς. Ἐπιστήμην συνέσεως ἐνέπλησεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἀγαθὰ ⁷ καὶ κακὰ ὑπέδειξεν αὐτοῖς. Ἔθηκε τὸν ὀφθαλμὸν αὐτοῦ ⁸ ἐπὶ τὰς καρδίας αὐτῶν, δεῖξαι αὐτοῖς τὸ μεγαλεῖον τῶν ἔργων αὐτοῦ· καὶ ὄνομα ἁγιασμοῦ αἰνέσουσιν, ἵνα διηγῶνται τὰ ⁹ μεγαλεῖα τῶν ἔργων αὐτοῦ.

Προσέθηκεν αὐτοῖς ἐπιστήμην, καὶ νόμον ζωῆς ἐκκληροδό- ¹¹ τησεν αὐτοῖς. Διαθήκην αἰῶνος ἔστησε μετ' αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ ¹² κρίματα αὐτοῦ ὑπέδειξεν αὐτοῖς. Μεγαλεῖον δόξης εἶδον οἱ ¹³ ὀφθαλμοὶ αὐτῶν, καὶ δόξαν φωνῆς αὐτῶν ἤκουσε τὸ οὖς αὐτῶν. Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, προσέχετε ἀπὸ παντὸς ἀδίκου· ¹⁴ καὶ ἐντείλατο αὐτοῖς ἐκάστω περὶ τοῦ πλησίον. Αἱ ὁδοὶ ¹⁵ αὐτῶν ἐναντίον αὐτοῦ διαπαντός, οὐ κρυβήσονται ἀπὸ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν αὐτοῦ. Ἐκάστω ἔθνει κατέστησεν ἡγούμενον, ¹⁷ καὶ μερὶς Κυρίου Ἰσραὴλ ἐστίν. Ἀπαντα τὰ ἔργα αὐτῶν ¹⁹ ὡς ὁ ἥλιος ἐναντίον αὐτοῦ, καὶ οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ αὐτοῦ ἐνδελεχεῖς ἐπὶ τὰς ὁδοὺς αὐτῶν. Οὐκ ἐκρύβησαν αἱ ἀδικίαι αὐτῶν ἀπ' ²⁰ αὐτοῦ, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ ἁμαρτίαι αὐτῶν ἐναντι Κυρίου.

Ἐλεημοσύνη ἄνδρὸς ὡς σφραγὶς μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ χάριν ²² ἀνθρώπου ὡς κόρην συντηρήσει. Μετὰ ταῦτα ἐξαναστή- ²³ σεται καὶ ἀνταποδώσει αὐτοῖς, καὶ τὸ ἀνταπόδομα αὐτῶν εἰς κεφαλὴν αὐτῶν ἀποδώσει. Πλὴν μετανοοῦσιν ἔδωκεν ἐπά- ²⁴ νοδον, καὶ παρεκάλεσεν ἐκλείποντας ὑπομονήν.

Ἐπίστρεφε ἐπὶ Κύριον καὶ ἀπόλειπε ἁμαρτίας, δεήθητι ²⁵ κατὰ πρόσωπον καὶ σμίκρυνον πρόσκομμα. Ἐπάναγε ἐπὶ ²⁶ ὕψιστον, καὶ ἀπόστρεφε ἀπὸ ἀδικίας, καὶ σφόδρα μίσησον βδέλυγμα. Ὑψίστω τίς αἰνέσει ἐν ᾄδου; ἀντὶ ζώντων ²⁷ καὶ ζώντων καὶ διδόντων ἀνθομολόγησιν. Ἀπὸ νεκροῦ ὡς ²⁸ μὴδὲ ὄντος ἀπόλλυται ἐξομολόγησις· ζῶν καὶ ὑγιὲς αἰνέσει τὸν Κύριον. Ὡς μεγάλη ἡ ἐλεημοσύνη τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ ²⁹ ἐξιλασμός τοῖς ἐπιστρέφουσιν ἐπ' αὐτόν· οὐ γὰρ δύνα- ³⁰ ται πάντα εἶναι ἐν ἀνθρώποις, ὅτι οὐκ ἀθάνατος υἱὸς ἀνθρώπου.

Τί φωτεινότερον ἡλίου; καὶ τοῦτο ἐκλείπει, καὶ πονηρὸς ³¹ ἐνθυμηθῆσεται σάρκα καὶ αἷμα. Δύναμιν ὕψους οὐρανοῦ ³² αὐτὸς ἐπισκέπτεται, καὶ οἱ ἄνθρωποι πάντες γῇ καὶ σποδός.

18 Ὁ ζῶν εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ἔκτισε τὰ πάντα κοινῇ. Κύριος
2, 4 μόνος δικαιωθήσεται. Οὐθενὶ ἐξεποίησεν ἐξαγγεῖλαι τὰ
5 ἔργα αὐτοῦ· καὶ τίς ἐξιχνιάσει τὰ μεγαλεῖα αὐτοῦ; Κράτος
μεγαλωσύνης αὐτοῦ τίς ἐξαριθμήσεται; καὶ τίς προσθήσει
ἐκδιηγῆσασθαι τὰ ἐλέη αὐτοῦ;

6 Οὐκ ἔστιν ἐλαττώσαι οὐδὲ προσθεῖναι, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν
7 ἐξιχνιάσαι τὰ θαυμάσια τοῦ Κυρίου. Ὅταν συντελέσῃ
ἄνθρωπος τότε ἄρχεται, καὶ ὅταν παύσῃται τότε ἀπορηθί-
8 σεται. Τί ἄνθρωπος, καὶ τί ἡ χρῆσις αὐτοῦ; τί τὸ
9 ἀγαθὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ τί τὸ κακὸν αὐτοῦ; Ἀριθμὸς ἡμερῶν
10 ἀνθρώπου πολλὰ ἔτη ἑκατόν. Ὡς σταγὼν ὕδατος ἀπὸ
θαλάσσης καὶ ψῆφος ἄμμου, οὕτως ὀλίγα ἔτη ἐν ἡμέρᾳ
11 αἰῶνος. Διὰ τοῦτο ἐμακροθύμησε Κύριος ἐπ' αὐτοῖς, καὶ
12 ἐξέχεεν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ. Εἶδε καὶ ἐπέγνω τὴν
καταστροφὴν αὐτῶν ὅτι πονηρὰ, διὰ τοῦτο ἐπλήθυνε τὸν
13 ἐξίλασμόν αὐτοῦ. Ἐλεος ἀνθρώπου ἐπὶ τὸν πλησίον αὐτοῦ,
ἔλεος δὲ Κυρίου ἐπὶ πᾶσαν σάρκα, ἐλέγχων καὶ παιδεύων
καὶ διδάσκων καὶ ἐπιστρέφων ὡς ποιμὴν τὸ ποίμνιον αὐτοῦ.
14 Τοὺς ἐκδεχομένους παιδείαν ἔλεει, καὶ τοὺς κατασπεύδοντας
ἐπὶ τὰ κρίματα αὐτοῦ.

15 Τέκνον, ἐν ἀγαθοῖς μὴ δῶς μῶμον, καὶ ἐν πάσῃ δόσει
16 λύπην λόγων. Οὐχὶ καύσωνα ἀναπαύσει δρόσος; οὕτως
17 κρείσσων λόγος ἢ δόσις. Οὐκ ἰδοὺ λόγος ὑπὲρ δόμα
18 ἀγαθόν; καὶ ἀμφοτέρα παρὰ ἀνδρὶ κεχαριτωμένῳ. Μωρὸς
ἀχαρίστως ὀνειδιεῖ, καὶ δόσις βασκάνου ἐκτῇκει ὀφθαλμούς.
19 Πρινὴ λαλήσαι μάνθανε, καὶ πρὸ ἀρρώστιας θεραπεύου.
20 Πρὸ κρίσεως ἐξέταζε σεαυτὸν, καὶ ἐν ὥρᾳ ἐπισκοπῆς
21 εὐρήσεις ἐξίλασμόν. Πρὶν ἀρρώστῆσαί σε ταπεινώθητι,
καὶ ἐν καιρῷ ἁμαρτημάτων δεῖξον ἐπιστροφὴν.

22 Μὴ ἐμποδισθῇς τοῦ ἀποδοῦναι εὐχὴν εὐκαιρως, καὶ μὴ
23 μείνης ἕως θανάτου δικαιωθῆναι. Πρὶν εὐξασθαι ἐτοίμασον
σεαυτὸν, καὶ μὴ γίνου ὡς ἄνθρωπος πειράζων τὸν Κύριον.
24 Μνήσθητι θυμοῦ ἐν ἡμέραις τελευτῆς, καὶ καιρὸν ἐκδικήσεως
25 ἐν ἀποστροφῇ προσώπου. Μνήσθητι καιρὸν λιμοῦ ἐν
καιρῷ πλησμονῆς, πτωχείαν καὶ ἔνδειαν ἐν ἡμέραις πλούτου.
26 Ἀπὸ πρωΐθεν ἕως ἑσπέρας μεταβάλλει καιρὸς, καὶ πάντα
ἐστὶ ταχινὰ ἐναντὶ Κυρίου.

27 Ἀνθρωπος σοφὸς ἐν παντὶ εὐλαβηθήσεται, καὶ ἐν ἡμέραις
28 ἁμαρτιῶν προσέξει ἀπὸ πλημμελείας· πᾶς συνετὸς ἔγνω
29 σοφίαν, καὶ τῷ εὐρόντι αὐτὴν δώσει ἐξομολόγησιν. Συνετοὶ
ἐν λόγοις καὶ αὐτοὶ ἐσοφίσαντο, καὶ ἀνὼμβρησαν παροιμίας
ἀκριβεῖς.

ἘΓΚΡΑΤΕΙΑ ΨΥΧΗΣ.

30 Ὅπισω τῶν ἐπιθυμιῶν σου μὴ πορεύου, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν
31 ὀρέξεών σου κωλύου. Ἐὰν χορηγήσῃς τῇ ψυχῇ σου εὐδο-
32 κίαν ἐπιθυμίας, ποιήσει σε ἐπίχαρμα τῶν ἐχθρῶν σου. Μὴ
εὐφραίνου ἐπὶ πολλῇ τρυφῇ, μηδὲ προσδεθῇς συμβολῇ
33 αὐτῆς. Μὴ γίνου πτωχὸς συμβολοκοπῶν ἐκ δανεισμοῦ,
καὶ οὐδέν σοι ἐστὶν ἐν μαρσυνείῳ.

19 Ἐργάτης μέθυσος οὐ πλουτισθήσεται, ὁ ἐξουθενῶν τὰ
2 ὀλίγα κατὰ μικρὸν πεσεῖται. Οἶνος καὶ γυναῖκες ἀποστή-
σουσι συνετοὺς, καὶ ὁ κολλῶμενος πόρναις τολμηρότερος

He that liveth for ever created all things in general. ² The Lord only is righteous. ⁴ To none hath he given power to declare his works; and who shall find out his noble acts? ⁵ Who shall number the strength of his majesty? and who shall also tell out his mercies?

⁶ As for the wondrous works of the Lord, there may nothing be taken from them, neither may any thing be put unto them, neither can the ground of them be found out. ⁷ When a man hath done, then he beginneth; and when he leaveth off, then he shall be doubtful. ⁸ What is man, and whereto serveth he; what is his good, and what is his evil? ⁹ The number of a man's days at the most is an hundred years. ¹⁰ As a drop of water unto the sea, and a gravel-stone in comparison of the sand; so are a thousand years to the days of eternity. ¹¹ Therefore is God patient with them, and poureth forth his mercy upon them. ¹² He saw and perceived their end to be evil; therefore he multiplied his compassion. ¹³ The mercy of man is toward his neighbour; but the mercy of the Lord is upon all flesh: he reproveth, and nurtureth, and teacheth, and bringeth again, as a shepherd his flock. ¹⁴ He hath mercy on them that receive discipline, and that diligently seek after his judgments.

¹⁵ My son, blemish not thy good deeds, neither use uncomfortable words when thou givest any thing. ¹⁶ Shall not the dew assuage the heat? so is a word better than a gift. ¹⁷ Lo, is not a word better than a gift? but both are with a gracious man. ¹⁸ A fool will upbraid churlishly, and a gift of the envious consumeth the eyes. ¹⁹ Learn before thou speak, and use physic or ever thou be sick. ²⁰ Before judgment examine thyself, and in the day of visitation thou shalt find mercy. ²¹ Humble thyself before thou be sick, and in the time of sins shew repentance.

²² Let nothing hinder thee to pay thy vow in due time, and defer not until death to be justified. ²³ Before thou prayest, prepare thyself; and be not as one that tempteth the Lord. ²⁴ Think upon the wrath that shall be at the end, and the time of vengeance, when he shall turn away his face. ²⁵ When thou hast enough, remember the time of hunger; and when thou art rich, think upon poverty and need. ²⁶ From the morning until the evening the time is changed, and all things are soon done before the Lord.

²⁷ A wise man will fear in every thing, and in the day of sinning he will beware of offence; but a fool will not observe time. ²⁸ Every man of understanding knoweth wisdom, and will give praise unto him that found her. ²⁹ They that had understanding in sayings became also wise themselves, and poured forth exquisite parables.

³⁰ Go not after thy lusts, but refrain thyself from thine appetites. ³¹ If thou givest thy soul the desires that please her, she will make thee a laughingstock to thine enemies that malign thee. ³² Take not pleasure in much good cheer, neither be tied to the expence thereof. ³³ Be not made a beggar by banqueting upon borrowing, when thou hast nothing in thy purse.

A labouring man that is given to drunkenness shall not be rich: and he that contemneth small things shall fall by little and little. ² Wine and women will make men of understanding to fall away: and he that cleaveth to

harlots will become impudent. ³ Moths and worms shall have him to heritage, and a bold man shall be taken away.

⁴ He that is hasty to give credit is light-minded; and he that sinneth shall offend against his own soul. ⁵ Whoso taketh pleasure in wickedness shall be condemned: but he that hateth babbling hath less of evil.

⁷ Rehearse not unto another that which is told unto thee, and thou shalt fare never the worse. ⁸ Whether it be to friend or foe, talk not of other men's lives; and if thou canst not without offence, reveal them not. ⁹ For he heard and observed thee, and when time cometh he will hate thee. ¹⁰ If thou hast heard a word, let it die with thee; and be bold, it will not burst thee. ¹¹ A fool travaileth with a word, as a woman in labour of a child. ¹² As an arrow that sticketh in a man's thigh, so is a word within a fool's belly. ¹³ Admonish a friend, it may be he hath not done it: and if he have done it, that he do it no more. ¹⁴ Admonish thy friend, it may be he hath not said it: and if he have, that he speak it not again. ¹⁵ Admonish a friend: for many times it is a slander, and believe not every tale.

¹⁶ There is one that slippeth in his speech, but not from his heart; and who is he that hath not offended with his tongue?

¹⁷ Admonish thy neighbour before thou threaten him; and give place to the law of the most High. ²⁰ The fear of the Lord is all wisdom; and in all wisdom is the performance of the law. ²² The knowledge of wickedness is not wisdom, neither at any time the counsel of sinners prudence. ²³ There is a wickedness, and the same an abomination; and there is a fool wanting in wisdom.

²⁴ He that hath small understanding, and feareth God, is better than one that hath much wisdom, and transgresseth the law of the most High. ²⁵ There is an exquisite subtilty, and the same is unjust; and there is one that turneth aside to make judgment appear. ²⁶ There is a wicked man that hangeth down his head sadly; but inwardly he is full of deceit, ²⁷ casting down his countenance, and making as if he heard not: where he is not known, he will do thee a mischief before thou be aware. ²⁸ And if for want of power he be hindered from sinning, yet when he findeth opportunity he will do evil. ²⁹ A man may be known by his look, and one that hath understanding by his countenance, when thou meetest him. ³⁰ A man's attire, and excessive laughter, and gait, shew what he is. ³¹ There is a reproof that is not comely: again, some man holdeth his tongue, and he is wise.

It is much better to reprove, than to be angry secretly: and he that confesseth his fault shall be preserved from hurt. ⁴ As is the lust of an eunuch to deflower a virgin; so is he that executeth judgment with violence.

⁵ There is one that keepeth silence, and is found wise: and another by much babbling becometh hateful. ⁶ Some man holdeth his tongue, because he hath not to answer: and some keepeth silence, knowing his time. ⁷ A wise man will hold his tongue till he see opportunity: but a babbler and a fool will regard no time. ⁸ He that useth many words shall be abhorred; and he that taketh to himself authority therein shall be hated. ⁹ There is a sinner that hath good success in evil things; and there is a gain that turneth to loss. ¹⁰ There

ἔσται. Σῆτες καὶ σκώληκες κληρονομήσουσιν αὐτὸν, καὶ ὁ ψυχὴν τολμηρὰ ἐξαρθήσεται.

Ὁ ταχὺ ἐμπιστεύων, κοῦφος καρδιά, καὶ ὁ ἁμαρτάνων εἰς 4 ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ πλημμελήσει. Ὁ εὐφραϊνόμενος καρδιά κατα- 5 γνωσθήσεται, καὶ ὁ μισῶν λαλιὰν ἐλαττονοῦται κακία.

Μηδέποτε δευτερώσης λόγον, καὶ οὐθέν σοι οὐ μὴ ἐλατ- 7 τονωθῇ. Ἐν φίλῳ καὶ ἐν ἐχθρῷ μὴ διηγοῦ, καὶ εἰ μὴ ἐστί 8 σοι ἁμαρτία, μὴ ἀποκάλυπτε. Ἀκήκοε γάρ σου καὶ ἐφυ- 9 λάξατό σε, καὶ ἐν καιρῷ μισήσει σε. Ἀκήκοας λόγον; 10 συναποθανέντω σοι, θάρσει, οὐ μὴ σε ῥήξει. Ἀπὸ προσώ- 11 πον λόγον ὠδινήσει μωρὸς, ὡς ἀπὸ προσώπου βρέφους ἢ τίκτουσα. Βέλος πεπηγὸς ἐν μηρῷ σαρκὸς, οὕτως λόγος 12 ἐν κοιλίᾳ μωροῦ. Ἐλεγξον φίλον, μήποτε οὐκ ἐποίησε, 13 καὶ εἴ τι ἐποίησε, μήποτε προσθῇ. Ἐλεγξον τὸν φίλον, 14 μήποτε οὐκ εἶπε, καὶ εἰ εἶρηκεν, ἵνα μὴ δευτερώσῃ. Ἐλε- 15 γξον φίλον, πολλάκις γὰρ γίνεται διαβολή, καὶ μὴ παντὶ λόγῳ πίστευε.

Ἔστιν ὀλισθαίνων καὶ οὐκ ἀπὸ ψυχῆς· καὶ τίς οὐχ ἡμάρ- 16 τησεν ἐν τῇ γλώσσῃ αὐτοῦ;

Ἐλεγξον τὸν πλησίον σου πρηνὴ ἀπειλῆσαι, καὶ δὸς 17 τόπον νόμῳ ὑψίστου. Πᾶσα σοφία φόβος Κυρίου, καὶ ἐν 20 πάσῃ σοφίᾳ ποίησις νόμον. Καὶ οὐκ ἔστι σοφία πονηρίας 22 ἐπιστήμη, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν, ὅπου βουλή ἁμαρτωλῶν, φρόνη- σις. Ἔστι πονηρία καὶ αὕτη βδέλυγμα, καὶ ἔστιν ἄφρων 23 ἐλαττούμενος σοφία.

Κρείττων ἡττώμενος ἐν συνέσει ἔμφοβος, ἢ περισσεύων 24 ἐν φρονήσει καὶ παραβαίνων νόμον. Ἔστι πανουργία 25 ἀκριβὴς καὶ αὕτη ἄδικος, καὶ ἔστι διαστρέφων χάριν τοῦ ἐκφάναι κρίμα. Ἔστι πονηρευόμενος συγκεκυφὼς μελανία, 26 καὶ τὰ ἐντὸς αὐτοῦ πλήρης δόλου. Συγκύφων πρόσωπον 27 καὶ ἑτεροκυφὼν, ὅπου οὐκ ἐπεγνωσθή, προφθάσει σε. Καὶ 28 ἐὰν ὑπὸ ἐλαττώματος ἰσχύος κωλυθῇ ἁμαρτεῖν, ἐὰν εὖρη 29 καιρὸν, κακοποιήσει. Ἀπὸ ὀράσεως ἐπιγνωσθήσεται ἀνὴρ, 30 καὶ ἀπὸ ἀπαντήσεως προσώπου ἐπιγνωσθήσεται νοήμων. Στολισμὸς ἀνδρὸς καὶ γέλως ὀδόντων καὶ βήματα ἀνθρώπου ἀναγγέλλει τὰ περὶ αὐτοῦ. Ἔστιν ἔλεγχος ὃς οὐκ ἔστιν 31 ὥραιος, καὶ ἔστι σιωπῶν καὶ αὐτὸς φρόνιμος.

Ὡς καλὸν ἐλέγξει ἢ θυμοῦσθαι, καὶ ὁ ἀνθομολογούμενος 20 ἀπὸ ἐλαττώσεως κωλυθήσεται. Ἐπιθυμία εὐνούχου ἀπο- 4 παρθενῶσαι νεανίδα, οὕτως ὁ ποιῶν ἐν βίᾳ κρίματα.

Ἔστι σιωπῶν εὐρισκόμενος σοφὸς, καὶ ἔστι μισητὸς ἀπὸ 5 πολλῆς λαλιᾶς. Ἔστι σιωπῶν, οὐ γὰρ ἔχει ἀπόκρισιν, καὶ 6 ἔστι σιωπῶν εἰδὼς καιρὸν. Ἀνθρώπος σοφὸς σιγήσει ἕως 7 καιροῦ, ὁ δὲ λαπιστὴς καὶ ἄφρων ὑπερβήσεται καιρὸν. Ὁ πλεονάζων λόγῳ βδελυχθήσεται, καὶ ὁ ἐνεξουσιαζόμενος 8 μισηθήσεται. Ἔστιν εὐδοία ἐν κακοῖς ἀνδρὶ, καὶ ἔστιν 9 εὔρεμα εἰς ἐλάττωσιν. Ἔστι δόσις ἢ οὐ λυσιτελήσει σοι, 10

11 καὶ ἔστι δόσις ἧς τὸ ἀνταπόδομα διπλοῦν. Ἔστιν ἐλάτ-
 12 τωσις ἔνεκεν δόξης, καὶ ἔστιν ὃς ἀπὸ ταπεινώσεως ἤρε
 κεφαλὴν. Ἔστιν ἀγοράζων πολλὰ ὀλίγου, καὶ ἀποτινύων
 αὐτὰ ἑπταπλάσιον.

13 Ὁ σοφὸς ἐν λόγῳ ἑαυτὸν προσφιλεῖ ποιήσει, χάριτες δὲ
 14 μωρῶν ἐκχυθήσονται. Δόσις ἄφρονος οὐ λυσιτελήσει σοι,
 15 οἱ γὰρ ὀφθαλμοὶ αὐτοῦ ἀνθ' ἑνὸς πολλοί. Ὀλίγα δώσει καὶ
 πολλὰ ὀνειδίσει, καὶ ἀνοίξει τὸ στόμα αὐτοῦ ὡς κήρυξ·
 σήμερον δανειεῖ καὶ αὔριον ἀπαιτήσιν· μισητὸς ἀνθρώπος
 16 ὁ τοιοῦτος. Μωρὸς ἐρεῖ, οὐχ ὑπάρχει μοι φίλος, καὶ οὐκ
 ἔστι χάρις τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς μου· οἱ ἔσθοντες τὸν ἄρτον μου,
 17 φαῦλοι γλώσση. Ποσάκις, καὶ ὅσοι καταγελάσονται
 αὐτοῦ;

18 Ὀλίσθημα ἀπὸ ἐδάφους μᾶλλον ἢ ἀπὸ γλώσσης, οὕτως
 19 πτώσις κακῶν κατὰ σπουδὴν ἤξει. Ἄνθρωπος ἄχαρις,
 μῦθος ἄκαιρος, ἐν στόματι ἀπαιδευτῶν ἐνδελεχισθήσεται.
 20 Ἀπὸ στόματος μωροῦ ἀποδοκιμασθήσεται παραβολή, οὐ
 21 γὰρ μὴ εἶπη αὐτὴν ἐν καιρῷ αὐτῆς. Ἔστι κωλυόμενος
 ἀμαρτάνειν ἀπὸ ἐνδείας, καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀναπαύσει αὐτοῦ οὐ
 22 κατανυγίσεται. Ἔστιν ἀπολλύων τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ δι'
 αἰσχύνην, καὶ ἀπὸ ἄφρονος προσώπου ἀπολεῖ αὐτήν.
 23 Ἔστι χάριν αἰσχύνης ἐπαγγελλόμενος φίλῳ, καὶ ἐκτήσατο
 24 αὐτὸν ἐχθρὸν δωρεάν. Μῶμος πονηρὸς ἐν ἀνθρώπῳ ψεῦδος,
 ἐν στόματι ἀπαιδευτῶν ἐνδελεχισθήσεται.

25 Αἰρετὸν κλέπτῃς, ἢ ὁ ἐνδελεχίζων ψεύδει, ἀμφότεροι δὲ
 26 ἀπώλειαν κληρονομήσουσιν. Ἡθὸς ἀνθρώπου ψευδοῦς
 ἀτιμία, καὶ ἡ αἰσχὺνὴ αὐτοῦ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐνδελεχῶς.

ΛΟΓΟΙ ΠΑΡΑΒΟΛΩΝ.

27 Ὁ σοφὸς ἐν λόγοις προάξει ἑαυτὸν, καὶ ἄνθρωπος φρό-
 28 νιμος ἀρέσει μεγιστᾶσιν. Ὁ ἐργαζόμενος γῆν ἀνυψώσει
 θημωνίαν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὁ ἀρέσκων μεγιστᾶσιν ἐξιλάσεται
 29 ἀδικίαν. Ξένια καὶ δῶρα ἀποτυφλοῖ ὀφθαλμοὺς σοφῶν,
 30 καὶ ὡς φιδὸς ἐν στόματι ἀποτρέπει ἐλεγμούς. Σοφία
 κεκρυμμένη καὶ θησανρὸς ἀφανὴς, τίς ὠφέλεια ἐν ἀμφοτέ-
 31 ροις; Κρείσσων ἀνθρωπος ἀποκρύπτων τὴν μωρίαν αὐτοῦ,
 ἢ ἄνθρωπος ἀποκρύπτων τὴν σοφίαν αὐτοῦ.

21 Τέκνον, ἡμαρτες; μὴ προσθῇς μηκέτι, καὶ περὶ τῶν
 2 προτέρων σου δεήθητι. Ὡς ἀπὸ προσώπου ὄφεως, φεύγε
 ἀπὸ ἀμαρτίας, ἐὰν γὰρ προσέλθῃς, δήξεται σε· ὀδόντες
 λέοντος οἱ ὀδόντες αὐτῆς, ἀναιρουντες ψυχὰς ἀνθρώπων.
 3 Ὡς ῥομφαία δίστομος πᾶσα ἀνομία, τῇ πληγῇ αὐτῆς οὐκ
 4 ἔστιν ἰασις. Καταπληγμὸς καὶ ὕβρις ἐρημώσουσι πλοῦτον,
 5 οὕτως οἶκος ὑπερηφάνου ἐρημωθήσεται. Δέησις πτωχοῦ
 ἐκ στόματος ἕως ὠτίων αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὸ κρίμα αὐτοῦ κατὰ
 6 σπουδὴν ἔρχεται. Μισῶν ἐλεγμὸν, ἐν ἵχνει ἀμαρτωλοῦ,
 καὶ ὁ φοβούμενος Κύριον ἐπιστρέψει ἐν καρδίᾳ.

7 Γνωστὸς μακρόθεν ὁ δυνατὸς ἐν γλώσσῃ, ὁ δὲ νοήμων
 8 οἶδεν ἐν τῷ ὀλισθαίνειν αὐτόν. Ὁ οἰκοδομῶν τὴν οἰκίαν
 αὐτοῦ ἐν χρήμασιν ἄλλοτρίοις, ὡς ὁ συνάγων αὐτοῦ τοὺς

is a gift that shall not profit thee; and there
 is a gift whose recompence is double. ¹¹ There
 is an abasement because of glory; and there is
 that lifteth up his head from a low estate.
¹² There is that buyeth much for a little, and
 repayeth it sevenfold.

¹³ A wise man by his words maketh himself
 beloved: but the graces of fools shall be poured
 out. ¹⁴ The gift of a fool shall do thee no good
 when thou hast it; neither yet of the envious
 for his necessity: for he looketh to receive
 many things for one. ¹⁵ He giveth little, and
 upbraideth much; he openeth his mouth like
 a crier; to-day he lendeth, and to-morrow will
 he ask it again: such an one is to be hated of
 God and man. ¹⁶ The fool saith, I have no
 friends, I have no thank for all my good deeds,
 and they that eat my bread speak evil of me.
¹⁷ How oft, and of how many shall he be
 laughed to scorn!

¹⁸ To slip upon a pavement is better than to
 slip with the tongue: so the fall of the wicked
 shall come speedily. ¹⁹ An unseasonable tale
 will always be in the mouth of the unwise.
²⁰ A wise sentence shall be rejected when it
 cometh out of a fool's mouth; for he will not
 speak it in due season. ²¹ There is that is hin-
 dered from sinning through want: and when
 he taketh rest, he shall not be troubled.
²² There is that destroyeth his own soul through
 bashfulness, and by accepting of persons over-
 throweth himself. ²³ There is that for bash-
 fulness promiseth to his friend, and maketh
 him his enemy for nothing. ²⁴ A lie is a foul
 blot in a man, yet it is continually in the mouth
 of the untaught.

²⁵ A thief is better than a man that is ac-
 customed to lie: but they both shall have
 destruction to heritage. ²⁶ The disposition of
 a liar is dishonourable, and his shame is ever
 with him.

²⁷ A wise man shall promote himself to hon-
 our with his words: and he that hath under-
 standing will please great men. ²⁸ He that
 tilleth his land shall increase his heap: and
 he that pleaseth great men shall get pardon
 for iniquity. ²⁹ Presents and gifts blind the
 eyes of the wise, and stop up his mouth that
 he cannot reprove. ³⁰ Wisdom that is hid, and
 treasure that is hoarded up, what profit is in
 them both? ³¹ Better is he that hideth his
 folly than a man that hideth his wisdom.

My son, hast thou sinned? do so no more,
 but ask pardon for thy former sins. ² Flee
 from sin as from the face of a serpent: for if
 thou comest too near it, it will bite thee: the
 teeth thereof are as the teeth of a lion, slaying
 the souls of men. ³ All iniquity is as a two edged
 sword, the wounds whereof cannot be healed.
⁴ To terrify and do wrong will waste riches:
 thus the house of proud men shall be made
 desolate. ⁵ A prayer out of a poor man's
 mouth reacheth to the ears of God, and his
 judgment cometh speedily. ⁶ He that hateth
 reproof is in the way of sinners: but he that
 feareth the Lord will repent from his heart.

⁷ An eloquent man is known far and near;
 but a man of understanding knoweth when he
 slippeth. ⁸ He that buildeth his house with
 other men's money is like one that gathereth

himself stones for the tomb of his burial.
 9 The congregation of the wicked is like tow wrapped together: and the end of them is a flame of fire to destroy them. 10 The way of sinners is made plain with stones, but at the end thereof is the pit of hell. 11 He that keepeth the law of the Lord getteth the understanding thereof: and the perfection of the fear of the Lord is wisdom. 12 He that is not wise will not be taught: but there is a wisdom which multiplieth bitterness. 13 The knowledge of a wise man shall abound like a flood: and his counsel is like a pure fountain of life. 14 The inner parts of a fool are like a broken vessel, and he will hold no knowledge as long as he liveth.

15 If a skilful man hear a wise word, he will commend it, and add unto it: but when one of no understanding heareth it, it displeaseth him, and he casteth it behind his back. 16 The talking of a fool is like a burden in the way: but grace shall be found in the lips of the wise. 17 They enquire at the mouth of the wise man in the congregation, and they shall ponder his words in their heart. 18 As a house that is destroyed, so is wisdom to a fool: and the knowledge of the unwise is as talk without sense. 19 Doctrine unto fools is as fetters on the feet, and like manacles on the right hand. 20 A fool lifteth up his voice with laughter: but a wise man doth scarce smile a little. 21 Learning is unto a wise man as an ornament of gold, and like a bracelet upon his right arm.

22 A foolish man's foot is soon in [his neighbour's] house: but a man of experience is ashamed of him. 23 A fool will peep in at the door into the house: but he that is well nurtured will stand without. 24 It is the rudeness of a man to hearken at the door: but a wise man will be grieved with the disgrace. 25 The lips of talkers will be telling such things as pertain not unto them: but the words of such as have understanding are weighed in the balance. 26 The heart of fools is in their mouth: but the mouth of the wise is in their heart. 27 When the ungodly curseth Satan, he curseth his own soul.

28 A whisperer defileth his own soul, and is hated wheresoever he dwelleth.

A slothful man is compared to a filthy stone, and every one will hiss him out to his disgrace. 2 A slothful man is compared to the filth of a dunghill: every man that takes it up will shake his hand. 3 An evil-nurtured son is the dishonour of his father that begat him: and a [foolish] daughter is born to his loss. 4 A wise daughter shall bring an inheritance to her husband: but she that liveth dishonestly is her father's heaviness. 5 She that is bold dishonoureth both her father and her husband, and they both shall despise her.

6 A tale out of season [is as] music in mourning: but stripes and correction of wisdom are never out of time. 7 Whoso teacheth a fool is as one that gluet a potsherd together, and as he that waketh one from a sound sleep. 8 He that telleth a tale to a fool speaketh to one in a slumber: when he hath told his tale, he will say, What is the matter? 9 Weep for the dead, for he hath lost the light: and weep for the fool, for he wanteth understanding: make little weeping for the dead, for he is at rest: but the life of the fool is worse than death. 12 Seven days do men mourn for him that is dead: but for a fool and an ungodly man all the days of his life.

λίθους εἰς χεῖμῶνα. Στυππεῖον συνηγμένον συναγωγὴ 9
 ἀνόμων, καὶ ἡ συντέλεια αὐτῶν φλόξ πυρός. Ὅδὸς ἀμαρ- 10
 τωλῶν ὠμαλισμένη ἐκ λίθων, καὶ ἐπ' ἐσχάτῳ αὐτῆς βόθρος
 ἄδου. Ὁ φύλασσω νόμον κατακρατεῖ τοῦ ἐννοήματος 11
 αὐτοῦ, καὶ συντέλεια τοῦ φόβου Κυρίου σοφία. Οὐ παι- 12
 δευθήσεται ὅς οὐκ ἔστι πανούργος· ἔστι πανουργία πληθύ-
 νουσα πικρίαν. Γνώσις σοφοῦ ὡς κατακλυσμός πληθυνθή- 13
 σεται, καὶ ἡ βουλή αὐτοῦ ὡς πηγὴ ζωῆς. Ἐγκατα μωροῦ 14
 ὡς ἀγγεῖον συντετριμμένον, καὶ πᾶσαν γνῶσιν οὐ κρατήσκει.

Λόγον σοφὸν ἐὰν ἀκούσῃ ἐπιστήμων, αἰνέσει αὐτὸν, καὶ 15
 ἐπ' αὐτὸν προσθήσει· ἤκουσεν ὁ σπαταλῶν καὶ ἀπήρσεν
 αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν αὐτὸν ὀπίσω τοῦ νότου αὐτοῦ. Ἐξ- 16
 ἡγήσις μωροῦ ὡς ἐν ὁδῷ φορτίον, ἐπὶ δὲ χεῖλους συνετοῦ
 εὐρεθήσεται χάρις. Στόμα φρονίμου ζητηθήσεται ἐν ἐκ- 17
 κλησίᾳ, καὶ τοὺς λόγους αὐτοῦ διανοηθήσεται ἐν καρδίᾳ.
 Ὡς οἶκος ἡφανισμένος, οὕτως μωρῷ σοφία· καὶ γνῶσις 18
 ἀσυνέτου, ἀδιεξέταστοι λόγοι. Πέδαι ἐν ποσὶν ἀνόητοις 19
 παιδεῖα, καὶ ὡς χειροπέδαι ἐπὶ χειρὸς δεξιᾶς. Μωρὸς ἐν 20
 γέλῳ ἀνυψοῖ φωνὴν αὐτοῦ, ἀνὴρ δὲ πανούργος μόλις ἡσυχή
 μειδιάσει. Ὡς κόσμος χρυσοῦ φρονίμῳ παιδεῖα, καὶ ὡς 21
 χλιδὴν ἐπὶ βραχίονι δεξιῷ.

Ποὺς μωροῦ ταχὺς εἰς οἰκίαν, ἄνθρωπος δὲ πολὺπείρος 22
 αἰσχυνηθήσεται ἀπὸ προσώπου. Ἀφρων ἀπὸ θύρας παρα- 23
 κύπτει εἰς οἰκίαν, ἀνὴρ δὲ πεπαιδευμένος ἔξω στήσεται.
 Ἀπαιδευσία ἀνθρώπου ἀκροᾶσθαι παρὰ θύραν, ὃ δὲ φρόνι- 24
 μος βαρυνθήσεται ἀτιμία. Χεῖλη ἀλλοτρίων ἐν τούτοις 25
 βαρυνθήσεται, λόγοι δὲ φρονίμων ἐν ζυγῷ σταθήσονται.
 Ἐν στόματι μωρῶν ἡ καρδιά αὐτῶν, καρδιά δὲ σοφῶν στόμα 26
 αὐτῶν. Ἐν τῷ καταρᾶσθαι ἀσεβῇ τὸν Σατανᾶν, αὐτὸς 27
 καταρᾶται τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν.

Μολύνει τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ὁ ψιθυρίζων, καὶ ἐν παροικίῃ 28
 μισηθήσεται.

Λίθῳ ἡρδαλωμένῳ συνεβλήθη ὀκνηρὸς, καὶ πᾶς ἐκσυριεῖ 22
 ἐπὶ τῇ ἀτιμίᾳ αὐτοῦ. Βολβίτῳ κοπρίων συνεβλήθη ὀκνη- 2
 ρὸς, πᾶς ὁ ἀναιρούμενος αὐτὸν ἐκτινάξει χεῖρα. Αἰσχύνῃ 3
 πατρὸς ἐν γεννήσει ἀπαιδεύτου, θυγάτηρ δὲ ἐπ' ἐλαττώσει
 γίνεται. Θυγάτηρ φρονίμη κληρονομήσει ἄνδρα αὐτῆς, 4
 καὶ ἡ καταισχύνουσα, εἰς λύπην γεννήσαντος. Πατέρα καὶ 5
 ἄνδρα καταισχύνει ἡ θρασεῖα, καὶ ὑπὸ ἀμφοτέρων ἀμιμασθή-
 σεται.

Μουσικὰ ἐν πένθει ἄκαιρος διήγησις, μάστιγες καὶ 6
 παιδεῖα ἐν παντὶ καιρῷ σοφίας. Συγκολλῶν ὄστρακον ὁ 7
 διδάσκων μωρὸν, ἐξεγείρων καθεύδοντα ἐκ βαθέως ὕπνου.
 Διηγούμενος νυστάζοντι ὁ διηγούμενος μωρῷ, καὶ ἐπὶ 8
 συντελείᾳ ἐρεῖ, τί ἐστιν; Ἐπὶ νεκρῷ κλαῦσον, ἐξέλιπε 11
 γὰρ φῶς· καὶ ἐπὶ μωρῷ κλαῦσον, ἐξέλιπε γὰρ σύνεσις·
 ἡδίων κλαῦσον ἐπὶ νεκρῷ, ὅτι ἀνεπαύσατο, τοῦ δὲ μωροῦ
 ὑπὲρ θάνατον ἢ ζωὴν πονηρά. Πένθος νεκροῦ ἑπτὰ ἡμέραι, 12
 μωροῦ δὲ καὶ ἀσεβοῦς πᾶσαι αἱ ἡμέραι τῆς ζωῆς αὐτοῦ.

13 Μετὰ ἄφρονος μὴ πληθύνῃς λόγον, καὶ πρὸς ἀσύνετον μὴ πορεύου· φύλαξον ἀπ' αὐτοῦ ἵνα μὴ κόπον ἔχῃς, καὶ οὐ μὴ μολυνθῇς ἐν τῷ ἐντιναγμῷ αὐτοῦ· ἔκκλινον ἀπ' αὐτοῦ καὶ εὐρήσεις ἀνάπausιν, καὶ οὐ μὴ ἀκηδιάσῃς ἐν τῇ ἀπονοίᾳ αὐτοῦ. Ὑπὲρ μόλυβδον τί βαρυνθήσεται; καὶ τί αὐτῷ ὄνομα, 14 ἀλλ' ἢ μωρός; Ἄρμον καὶ ἄλα καὶ βῶλον σιδήρου εὐκοπον ὑπενεγκεῖν, ἢ ἄνθρωπον ἀσύνετον.

16 Ἰμάντωςις ξυλίνῃ ἐνδεδεμένη εἰς οἰκοδομὴν ἐν συσσεισμῷ οὐ διαλυθήσεται, οὕτως καρδιά ἐστηρικμένη ἐπὶ διανοήματος βουλήs ἐν καιρῷ οὐ δειλιάσει. Καρδιά ἡδρασμένη ἐπὶ διανοίας συνέσεως, ὡς κόσμος ψαμμωτὸς τοίχου ξυστοῦ. 18 Χάρακες ἐπὶ μετεώρου κείμενοι κατέναντι ἀνέμου οὐ μὴ ὑπομείνωσιν, οὕτως καρδιά δειλὴ ἐπὶ διανοήματος μωροῦ κατέναντι παντὸς φόβου οὐ μὴ ὑπομείνῃ.

19 Ὁ νύσσων ὀφθαλμὸν κατάρχει δάκρυα, καὶ ὁ νύσσων 20 καρδίαν ἐκφαίνει αἴσθησιν. Βάλλον λίθον ἐπὶ πετεινὰ ἀποσοβεῖ αὐτὰ, καὶ ὁ ὀνειδίζων φίλον διαλύσει φιλίαν. 21 Ἐπὶ φίλον ἐὰν σπάσῃς ῥομφαίαν, μὴ ἀπελπίσῃς, ἔστι γὰρ 22 ἐπάνοδος. Ἐπὶ φίλον ἐὰν ἀνοίξῃς στόμα, μὴ εὐλαβηθῇς, ἔστι γὰρ διαλλαγὴ· πλὴν ὀνειδισμοῦ, καὶ ὑπερηφανίας, καὶ μυστηρίου ἀποκαλύψεως, καὶ πληγῆς δολίας, ἐν τούτοις ἀποφεύγεται πᾶς φίλος.

23 Πίστιν κτῆσαι ἐν πτωχείᾳ μετὰ τοῦ πλησίον, ἵνα ἐν τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς αὐτοῦ ὁμοῦ πλησθῇς· ἐν καιρῷ θλίψεως διάμενε 24 αὐτῷ, ἵνα ἐν τῇ κληρονομίᾳ αὐτοῦ συγκληρονομήσῃς. Πρὸ πυρὸς ἀτμὶς καμίνου καὶ καπνὸς, οὕτως πρὸ αἱμάτων λαιδο- 25 ρίαι. Φίλον σκεπάσαι οὐκ αἰσχυνθήσομαι, καὶ ἀπὸ προσώ- 26 που αὐτοῦ οὐ μὴ κρυβῶ, καὶ εἰ κακά μοι συμβῇ δι' αὐτόν, 27 πᾶς ὁ ἀκούων φυλάσσεται ἀπ' αὐτοῦ. Τίς δώσει μοι ἐπὶ στόμα μου φυλακὴν, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν χειλέων μου σφραγίδα πανοῦργον, ἵνα μὴ πέσω ἀπ' αὐτῆς, καὶ ἡ γλῶσσά μου ἀπολέσῃ με;

23 Κύριε πάτερ καὶ δέσποτα ζωῆς μου, μὴ ἐγκαταλίπῃς με 2 ἐν βουλῇ αὐτῶν, μὴ ἀφῇς με πεσεῖν ἐν αὐτοῖς. Τίς ἐπι- στήσει ἐπὶ τοῦ διανοήματός μου μάστιγας, καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς καρδίας μου παιδείαν σοφίας; ἵνα ἐπὶ τοῖς ἀγνοήμασί μου μὴ φείσωνται, καὶ οὐ μὴ παρῇ τὰ ἁμαρτήματα αὐτῶν, 3 ὅπως μὴ πληθύνωσιν αἱ ἄγνοιαί μου, καὶ αἱ ἁμαρτίαι μου πλεονάσωσι, καὶ πεσοῦμαι ἔναντι τῶν ὑπεναντίων, καὶ ἐπι- χαρεῖταί μοι ὁ ἐχθρὸς μου.

4 Κύριε πάτερ καὶ Θεὸς ζωῆς μου, μετεωρισμὸν ὀφθαλμῶν 5, 6 μὴ δῶς μοι, καὶ ἐπιθυμίαν ἀπόστρεψον ἀπ' ἐμοῦ. Κοι- λίας ὀρεγίς καὶ συνουσιασμὸς μὴ καταλαβέτωσάν με, καὶ ψυχῇ ἀναιδεῖ μὴ παραδῶς με.

ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑ ΣΤΟΜΑΤΟΣ.

7 Παιδείαν στόματος ἀκούσατε τέκνα, καὶ ὁ φυλάσσων οὐ 8 μὴ ἀλῶ ἐν τοῖς χείλεσιν αὐτοῦ. Καταλειφθήσεται ἁμαρ- τωλὸς, καὶ λαιδὸρος καὶ ὑπερήφανος σκανδαλισθήσονται ἐν 9 αὐτοῖς. Ὅρκω μὴ ἐθίσῃς τὸ στόμα σου, καὶ ὀνομασίᾳ τοῦ 10 ἁγίου μὴ συνεθισθῇς. Ὡς περ γὰρ οἰκέτης ἐξεταζόμενος ἐνδελεχῶς ἀπὸ μῶλωπος οὐκ ἐλαττωθήσεται, οὕτως ὁ καὶ

13 Talk not much with a fool, and go not to him that hath no understanding: beware of him, lest thou have trouble, and thou shalt never be defiled with his fooleries: depart from him, and thou shalt find rest, and never be disquieted with madness. 14 What is heavier than lead? and what is the name thereof, but a fool? 15 Sand, and salt, and a mass of iron, are easier to bear, than a man without understanding.

16 As timber girt and bound together in a building cannot be loosed with shaking: so the heart that is stablished by advised counsel shall fear at no time. 17 A heart settled upon a thought of understanding is as a fair plaiting on the wall of a gallery. 18 Pales set on an high place will never stand against the wind: so a fearful heart in the imagination of a fool cannot stand against any fear.

19 He that pricketh the eye will make tears to fall: and he that pricketh the heart maketh it to shew her knowledge. 20 Whoso casteth a stone at the birds frayeth them away: and he that upbraideth his friend breaketh friendship. 21 Though thou drewest a sword at thy friend, yet despair not: for there may be a returning [to favour]. 22 If thou hast opened thy mouth against thy friend, fear not; for there may be a reconciliation: except for upbraiding, or pride, or disclosing of secrets, or a treacherous wound: for for these things every friend will depart.

23 Be faithful to thy neighbour in his poverty, that thou mayest rejoice in his prosperity: abide steadfast unto him in the time of his trouble, that thou mayest be heir with him in his heritage. 24 As the vapour and smoke of a furnace goeth before the fire; so reviling before blood. 25 I will not be ashamed to defend a friend; neither will I hide myself from him; 26 and if any evil happen unto me by him, every one that heareth it will beware of him. 27 Who shall set a watch before my mouth, and a seal of wisdom upon my lips, that I fall not suddenly by them, and that my tongue destroy me not?

O Lord, Father and Governor of my life, leave me not to their counsels, and let me not fall by them. 2 Who will set scourges over my thoughts, and the discipline of wisdom over mine heart? that they spare me not for mine ignorances, and it pass not by my sins: 3 lest mine ignorances increase, and my sins abound to my destruction, and I fall before mine adversaries, and mine enemy rejoice over me, whose hope is far from thy mercy.

4 O Lord, Father and God of my life, give me not a proud look. 5 Turn away concupiscence from me. 6 Let not the greediness of the belly nor lust of the flesh take hold of me; and give me not over into an impudent mind.

7 Hear, O ye children, the discipline of the mouth: he that keepeth it shall never be taken in his lips. 8 The sinner shall be left in his foolishness: both the evil speaker and the proud shall fall thereby. 9 Accustom not thy mouth to swearing; neither use thyself to the naming of the Holy One. 10 For as a servant that is continually beaten shall not be without

a blue mark: so he that sweareth and nameth God continually shall not be faultless. ¹¹ A man that useth much swearing shall be filled with iniquity, and the plague shall never depart from his house: if he shall offend, his sin shall be upon him: and if he acknowledge not his sin, he maketh a double offence: and if he swear in vain, he shall not be innocent, but his house shall be full of calamities. ¹² There is a word that is clothed about with death: God grant that it be not found in the heritage of Jacob; for all such things shall be far from the godly, and they shall not wallow in their sins. ¹³ Use not thy mouth to intemperate swearing, for therein is the word of sin.

¹⁴ Remember thy father and thy mother, when thou sittest among great men. Be not forgetful before them, and so thou by thy custom become a fool, and wish that thou hadst not been born, and curse the day of thy nativity. ¹⁵ The man that is accustomed to opprobrious words will never be reformed all the days of his life.

¹⁶ Two sorts of men multiply sin, and the third will bring wrath: a hot mind is as a burning fire, it will never be quenched till it be consumed: a fornicator in the body of his flesh will never cease till he hath kindled a fire. ¹⁷ All bread is sweet to a whoremonger, he will not leave off till he die.

¹⁸ A man that breaketh wedlock, saying thus in his heart, Who seeth me? I am compassed about with darkness, the walls cover me, and no body seeth me; what need I to fear? the most High will not remember my sins: ¹⁹ such a man only feareth the eyes of men, and knoweth not that the eyes of the Lord are ten thousand times brighter than the sun, beholding all the ways of men, and considering the most secret parts. ²⁰ He knew all things ere ever they were created; so also after they were perfected he looked upon them all. ²¹ This man shall be punished in the streets of the city, and where he suspecteth not he shall be taken.

²² Thus shall it go also with the wife that leaveth her husband, and bringeth in an heir by another. ²³ For first, she hath disobeyed the law of the most High; and secondly, she hath trespassed against her own husband; and thirdly, she hath played the whore in adultery, and brought children by another man. ²⁴ She shall be brought out into the congregation, and inquisition shall be made of her children. ²⁵ Her children shall not take root, and her branches shall bring forth no fruit. ²⁶ She shall leave her memory to be cursed, and her reproach shall not be blotted out. ²⁷ And they that remain shall know that there is nothing better than the fear of the Lord, and that there is nothing sweeter than to take heed unto the commandments of the Lord.

Wisdom shall praise herself, and shall glory in the midst of her people. ² In the congregation of the most High shall she open her mouth, and triumph before his power. ³ I came out of the mouth of the most High, and covered the earth as a cloud. ⁴ I dwelt in high places, and my throne is in a cloudy pillar. ⁵ I alone compassed the circuit of heaven, and walked in the bottom of the deep. ⁶ In the waves of the sea, and in all the earth, and in every people and nation, I got a possession.

δμνύων καὶ ὀνομάζων διαπαντός ἀπὸ ἁμαρτίας οὐ μὴ καθαρισθῇ. Ἄνθρωπος πολυὸρκος πλησθήσεται ἀνομίας, καὶ οὐκ ἀποστήσεται ἀπὸ τοῦ οἴκου αὐτοῦ μάστιξ· ἐὰν πλημμελήσῃ, ἁμαρτία αὐτοῦ ἐπ' αὐτῷ, καὶ ὑπερίδῃ, ἡμαρτε δισσῶς· καὶ εἰ διακενῆς ὤμοσεν, οὐ δικαιωθήσεται, πλησθήσεται γὰρ ἐπαγωγῶν ὁ οἶκος αὐτοῦ. Ἔστι λέξις ἀντιπεριβεβλημένη θανάτῳ, μὴ εὐρεθῇ ἐν κληρονομίᾳ Ἰακώβ· ἀπὸ γὰρ εὐσεβῶν ταῦτα πάντα ἀποστήσεται, καὶ ἐν ἁμαρτίαις οὐκ ἐγκυλισθήσονται. Ἀπαιδευσίαν ἀσυρῇ μὴ συνειδήσεως τὸ στόμα σου, ἔστι γὰρ ἐν αὐτῇ λόγος ἁμαρτίας.

Μνησθητι πατρός σου καὶ μητρός σου, ἀναμέσον γὰρ μεγίστων συνεδρεύεις· μή ποτ' ἐπιλάβῃ ἐνώπιον αὐτῶν, καὶ τῷ ἔθισμῳ σου μωρανθῇς, καὶ θελήσεις εἰ μὴ ἐγεννήθης, καὶ τὴν ἡμέραν τοῦ τοκετοῦ σου καταράσῃ. Ἄνθρωπος συνεπιζόμενος λόγοις ὀνειδισμοῦ, ἐν πάσαις ταῖς ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ οὐ μὴ παιδευθῇ.

Δύο εἶδη πληθύνουσιν ἁμαρτίας, καὶ τὸ τρίτον ἐπάξει ὀργήν· ψυχὴ θερμὴ ὡς πῦρ καιόμενον, οὐ μὴ σβεσθῇ ἕως ἂν καταποθῇ· ἄνθρωπος πόρνος ἐν σώματι σαρκὸς αὐτοῦ, οὐ μὴ παύσῃται ἕως ἂν ἐκκαύσῃ πῦρ. Ἀνθρώπῳ πόρνῳ πᾶς ἄρτος ἡδύς, οὐ μὴ κοπάσῃ ἕως ἂν τελευτήσῃ.

Ἄνθρωπος παραβαίνων ἀπὸ τῆς κλίνης αὐτοῦ, λέγων ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ αὐτοῦ, τίς μὲ ὄρα; σκότος κύκλω μου, καὶ οἱ τοίχοί με καλύπτουσι, καὶ οὐθεὶς με ὄρα, τί εὐλαβοῦμαι; τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν μου οὐ μὴ μνησθήσεται ὁ ὑψίστος· καὶ ὀφθαλμοὶ ἀνθρώπων ὁ φόβος αὐτοῦ· καὶ οὐκ ἔγνω ὅτι ὀφθαλμοὶ Κυρίου μυριοπλάσις ἡλίου φωτεινότεροι, ἐπιβλέποντες πάσας ὁδοὺς ἀνθρώπων, καὶ κατανοοῦντες εἰς ἀπόκρυφα μέρη. Πρινὴ κτισθῇ τὰ πάντα ἐγνωσται αὐτῷ, οὕτως καὶ μετὰ τὸ συντελεσθῆναι. Οὗτος ἐν πλατείαις πόλεως ἐκδικηθήσεται, καὶ οὐ οὐχ ὑπενόησε πιασθήσεται.

Οὕτως καὶ γυνὴ καταλιποῦσα τὸν ἄνδρα, καὶ παριστώσα κληρονόμον ἐξ ἄλλοτρίου. Πρῶτον μὲν γὰρ ἐν νόμῳ ὑψίστου ἠπειθήσῃ, καὶ δεύτερον εἰς ἄνδρα ἑαυτῆς ἐπλημέλησῃ, καὶ τὸ τρίτον ἐν πορνείᾳ ἐμοιχεύθῃ, ἐξ ἄλλοτρίου ἄνδρος τέκνα παρέστησεν. Αὕτη εἰς ἐκκλησίαν ἐξαχθήσεται, καὶ ἐπὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῆς ἐπισκοπῇ ἔσται. Οὐ δώσουσι τὰ τέκνα αὐτῆς εἰς ρίζαν, καὶ οἱ κλάδοι αὐτῆς οὐ δώσουσι καρπόν. Καταλείπει εἰς κατάραν τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτῆς, καὶ τὸ ὄνειδος αὐτῆς οὐκ ἐξαλειφθήσεται. Καὶ ἐπιγνώσονται οἱ καταλειφθέντες, ὅτι οὐθέν κρείττον φόβου Κυρίου, καὶ οὐθέν γλυκύτερον τοῦ προσέχειν ἐντολαῖς Κυρίου.

ΑΙΝΕΣΙΣ ΣΟΦΙΑΣ.

Ἡ σοφία αἰνέσει ψυχὴν αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐν μέσῳ λαοῦ αὐτῆς καυχῆσεται. Ἐν ἐκκλησίᾳ ὑψίστου στόμα αὐτῆς ἀνοίξει, καὶ ἔναντι δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ καυχῆσεται. Ἐγὼ ἀπὸ στόματος ὑψίστου ἐξηλθὼν, καὶ ὡς ὁμίχλη κατεκάλυψα γῆν. Ἐγὼ ἐν ὑψηλοῖς κατεσκήνωσα, καὶ ὁ θρόνος μου ἐν στύλῳ νεφέλης. Γῆρον οὐρανοῦ ἐκύκλωσα μόνη, καὶ ἐν βάθει ἀβύσσων περιεπάτησα. Ἐν κύμασι θαλάσσης καὶ ἐν πάσῃ τῇ γῇ, καὶ ἐν παντὶ λαῷ καὶ ἔθνει ἐκτησάμην.

- 7 Μετὰ τούτων πάντων ἀνάπαυσιν ἐζήτησα, καὶ ἐν κληρο-
 8 νομίᾳ τίνος αὐλισθήσομαι. Τότε ἐνετείλατό μοι ὁ κτίστης
 ἀπάντων, καὶ ὁ κτίσας με κατέπαυσε τὴν σκηνὴν μου, καὶ
 9 εἶπεν, ἐν Ἰακώβ κατασκήνωσον, καὶ ἐν Ἰσραὴλ κατακληρο-
 νομήθητι. Πρὸ τοῦ αἰῶνος ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἔκτισέ με, καὶ ἔως
 αἰῶνος οὐ μὴ ἐκλίπω.
- 10 Ἐν σκηνῇ ἁγίᾳ ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ ἐλειτούργησα, καὶ οὕτως
 11 ἐν Σιών ἐστηρίχθην. Ἐν πόλει ἡγαπημένη ὁμοίως με
 12 κατέπαυσε, καὶ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἡ ἐξουσία μου. Καὶ ἐρρί-
 13 ζωσα ἐν λαῷ δεδοξασμένῳ, ἐν μερίδι Κυρίου κληρονομίας
 αὐτοῦ. Ὡς κέδρος ἀνυψώθην ἐν Λιβάνῳ, καὶ ὡς κυπάρισ-
 14 σος ἐν ὄρεσιν Ἀερμών. Ὡς φοῖνιξ ἀνυψώθην ἐν αἰγιαλοῖς,
 καὶ ὡς φυτὰ ῥόδου ἐν Ἱερικῷ· ὡς ἐλαία εὐπρεπὴς ἐν πεδίῳ,
 15 καὶ ἀνυψώθην ὡς πλάτανος. Ὡς κιννάμωμον καὶ ἀσπάλαθος
 ἀρωμάτων δέδωκα ὁσμὴν, καὶ ὡς σμύρνα ἐκλεκτὴ δέδωκα
 εὐωδίαν· ὡς χαλβάνη καὶ ὄνυξ καὶ στακτὴ, καὶ ὡς λιβάνου
 16 ἀτμὶς ἐν σκηνῇ. Ἐγὼ ὡς τερέμινθος ἐξέτεινα κλάδους μου,
 17 καὶ οἱ κλάδοι μου κλάδοι δόξης καὶ χάριτος. Ἐγὼ ὡς
 ἄμπελος βλαστήσασα χάριν, καὶ τὰ ἄνθη μου καρπὸς
 19 δόξης καὶ πλούτου. Προσέλθετε πρὸς με οἱ ἐπιθυμοῦντές
 20 μου, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν γεννημάτων μου ἐμπλήσθητε. Τὸ γὰρ
 μνημόσυρόν μου ὑπὲρ μέλι γλυκὺ, καὶ ἡ κληρονομία μου
 21 ὑπὲρ μέλιτος κηροῦ. Οἱ ἐσθιόντές με ἔτι πεινάσουσι, καὶ
 22 οἱ πίνοντές με ἔτι διψήσουσιν. Ὁ ὑπακούων μου οὐκ
 αἰσχυνθήσεται, καὶ οἱ ἐργαζόμενοι ἐν ἐμοὶ οὐχ ἁμαρτή-
 σουσι.
- 23 Ταῦτα πάντα βίβλος διαθήκης Θεοῦ ὑψίστου, νόμον ὃν
 25 ἐνετείλατο Μωυσῆς, κληρονομίαν συναγωγαῖς Ἰακώβ. Ὁ
 πιμπλὼν ὡς Φεισὼν σοφίαν, καὶ ὡς Τίγρις ἐν ἡμέραις νέων·
 26 ὁ ἀναπληρῶν ὡς Εὐφράτης σύνεσιν, καὶ ὡς Ἰορδάνης ἐν
 27 ἡμέραις θερισμοῦ· ὁ ἐκφαίνων ὡς φῶς παιδείαν, ὡς Γηὼν ἐν
 ἡμέραις τρυγητοῦ.
- 28 Οὐ συνετέλεσεν ὁ πρῶτος γινῶναι αὐτὴν, καὶ οὕτως ὁ
 29 ἔσχατος οὐκ ἐξιχνίασεν αὐτήν. Ἀπὸ γὰρ θαλάσσης ἐπλη-
 θύνθη διανόημα αὐτῆς, καὶ ἡ βουλὴ αὐτῆς ἀπὸ ἀβύσσου
 30 μεγάλης. Καὶ ὡς διώρυξ ἀπὸ ποταμοῦ, καὶ ὡς ὕδραγωγὸς
 31 ἐξῆλθον εἰς παράδεισον. Εἶπα, ποτιῶ μου τὸν κῆπον, καὶ
 μεθύσω μου τὴν πρασιάν· καὶ ἰδοὺ ἐγένετό μοι ἡ διώρυξ εἰς
 32 ποταμόν, καὶ ὁ ποταμός μου ἐγένετο εἰς θάλασσαν. Ἐτι
 παιδείαν ὡς ὄρθρον φωτιῶ, καὶ ἐκφανῶ αὐτὰ ἕως εἰς μακράν.
 33 Ἐτι διδασκαλίαν ὡς προφητείαν ἐκχεῶ, καὶ καταλείψω
 34 αὐτὴν εἰς γενεὰς αἰώνων. Ἰδετε ὅτι οὐκ ἐμοὶ μόνῳ ἐκοπίασα,
 ἀλλὰ πᾶσι τοῖς ἐκζητοῦσιν αὐτήν.
- 25 Ἐν τρισὶν ὥραϊσθην, καὶ ἀνέστην ὥραία ἔναντι Κυρίου
 καὶ ἀνθρώπων· ὁμόνοια ἀδελφῶν, καὶ φιλία τῶν πλησίων,
 καὶ γυνὴ καὶ ἀνὴρ ἑαυτοῖς συμπεριφερόμενοι.
- 2 Τρία δὲ εἶδη ἐμίσησεν ἡ ψυχὴ μου, καὶ προσώχθισα
 σφόδρα τῇ ζωῇ αὐτῶν· πτωχὸν ὑπερήφανον, καὶ πλούσιον
 ψεύστην, γέροντα μοιχὸν ἐλαττούμενον συνέσει.
- 3 Ἐν νεότητι οὐ συναγώχας, καὶ πῶς ἂν εὖροις ἐν τῷ
 γήρᾳ σου;
- 4 Ὡς ὥραϊον πολιαῖς κρίσις, καὶ πρεσβυτέροις ἐπιγινῶναι

7 With all these I sought rest: and in whose inheritance shall I abide? ⁸ So the Creator of all things gave me a commandment, and he that made me caused my tabernacle to rest, and said, Let thy dwelling be in Jacob, and thine inheritance in Israel. ⁹ He created me from the beginning before the world, and I shall never fail.

¹⁰ In the holy tabernacle I served before him; and so was I established in Sion. ¹¹ Likewise in the beloved city he gave me rest, and in Jerusalem was my power. ¹² And I took root in an honourable people, even in the portion of the Lord's inheritance. ¹³ I was exalted like a cedar in Libanus, and as a cypress tree upon the mountains of Hermon. ¹⁴ I was exalted like a palm tree on the sea shore, and as a rose plant in Jericho, as a fair olive tree in a plain, and grew up as a plane tree. ¹⁵ I gave a sweet smell like cinnamon and aspalathus, and I yielded a pleasant odour like the best myrrh, as galbanum, and onyx, and sweet storax, and as the fume of frankincense in the tabernacle. ¹⁶ As the turpentine tree I stretched out my branches, and my branches are the branches of honour and grace. ¹⁷ As the vine brought I forth pleasant savour, and my flowers are the fruit of honour and riches. ¹⁹ Come unto me, all ye that be desirous of me, and fill yourselves with my fruits. ²⁰ For my memorial is sweeter than honey, and mine inheritance than the honeycomb. ²¹ They that eat me shall yet be hungry, and they that drink me shall yet be thirsty. ²² He that obeyeth me shall never be confounded, and they that work by me shall not do amiss.

²³ All these things are the book of the covenant of the most high God, even the law which Moses commanded for an heritage unto the congregations of Jacob. ²⁵ He filleth all things with his wisdom, as Phison and as Tigris in the time of the new fruits. ²⁶ He maketh the understanding to abound like Euphrates, and as Jordan in the time of the harvest. ²⁷ He maketh the doctrine of knowledge appear as the light, and as Geon in the time of vintage.

²⁸ The first man knew her not perfectly: no more shall the last find her out. ²⁹ For her thoughts are more than the sea, and her counsels profounder than the great deep. ³⁰ I also came out as a brook from a river, and as a conduit into a garden. ³¹ I said, I will water my best garden, and will water abundantly my garden bed: and, lo, my brook became a river, and my river became a sea. ³² I will yet make doctrine to shine as the morning, and will send forth her light afar off. ³³ I will yet pour out doctrine as prophecy, and leave it to all ages for ever. ³⁴ Behold that I have not laboured for myself only, but for all them that seek wisdom.

In three things I was beautified, and stood up, beautiful both before God and men: the unity of brethren, the love of neighbours, a man and a wife that agree together.

² Three sorts of men my soul hateth, and I am greatly offended at their life: a poor man that is proud, a rich man that is a liar, and an old adulterer that doateth.

³ If thou hast gathered nothing in thy youth, how canst thou find any thing in thine age?

⁴ O how comely a thing is judgment for grey hairs, and for ancient men to know counsel!

⁵ O how comely is the wisdom of old men, and understanding and counsel to men of honour!

⁶ Much experience is the crown of old men, and the fear of God is their glory.

⁷ There be nine things which I have judged in mine heart to be happy, and the tenth I will utter with my tongue: A man that hath joy of his children; and he that liveth to see the fall of his enemy. ⁸ Well is he that dwelleth with a wife of understanding, and that hath not slipped with his tongue, and that hath not served a man more unworthy than himself. ⁹ Well is he that hath found prudence, and he that speaketh in the ears of them that will hear: ¹⁰ O how great is he that findeth wisdom! yet there is none above him that feareth the Lord. ¹¹ But the love of the Lord passeth all things for illumination: he that holdeth it, whereto shall he be likened?

¹³ [Give me] any plague, but the plague of the heart: and any wickedness, but the wickedness of a woman: ¹⁴ and any affliction, but the affliction from them that hate me: and any revenge, but the revenge of enemies. ¹⁵ There is no head above the head of a serpent; and there is no wrath above the wrath of an enemy.

¹⁶ I had rather dwell with a lion and a dragon, than to keep house with a wicked woman. ¹⁷ The wickedness of a woman changeth her face, and darkeneth her countenance like sackcloth. ¹⁸ Her husband shall sit among his neighbours; and when he heareth it shall sigh bitterly. ¹⁹ All wickedness is but little to the wickedness of a woman; let the portion of a sinner fall upon her.

²⁰ As the climbing up a sandy way is to the feet of the aged, so is a wife full of words to a quiet man. ²¹ Stumble not at the beauty of a woman, and desire her not for pleasure. ²² A woman, if she maintain her husband, is full of anger, impudence, and much reproach. ²³ A wicked woman abateth the courage, maketh an heavy countenance and a wounded heart: a woman that will not comfort her husband in distress maketh weak hands and feeble knees. ²⁴ Of the woman came the beginning of sin, and through her we all die. ²⁵ Give the water no passage; neither a wicked woman liberty to gad abroad. ²⁶ If she go not as thou wouldest have her, cut her off from thy flesh, and give her a bill of divorce, and let her go.

Blessed is the man that hath a virtuous wife, for the number of his days shall be double. ² A virtuous woman rejoiceth her husband, and he shall fulfil the years of his life in peace. ³ A good wife is a good portion, which shall be given in the portion of them that fear the Lord. ⁴ Whether a man be rich or poor, if he have a good heart toward the Lord, he shall at all times rejoice with a cheerful countenance.

⁵ There be three things that mine heart feareth; and for the fourth I was sore afraid: the slander of a city, the gathering together of an unruly multitude, and a false accusation: all these are worse than death. ⁶ But a grief of heart and sorrow is a woman that is jealous over another woman, and a scourge of the tongue which communicateth with all. ⁷ An evil wife is a yoke shaken to and fro: he that hath hold of her is as though he held a scorpion. ⁸ A drunken woman and a gadder abroad causeth great anger, and she will not cover her own shame. ⁹ The whoredom of a

βουλήν; Ὡς ὡραία γερόντων σοφία, καὶ δεδοξασμένοις 5 διανόημα καὶ βουλή. Στέφανος γερόντων πολυπειρία, καὶ 6 τὸ καύχημα αὐτῶν φόβος Κυρίου.

Ἐννέα ὑπονοήματα ἐμακάρισα ἐν καρδίᾳ, καὶ τὸ δέκατον 7 ἐρῶ ἐπὶ γλώσσης· ἄνθρωπος εὐφραινόμενος ἐπὶ τέκνοις, ζῶν καὶ βλέπων ἐπὶ πτώσει ἐχθρῶν. Μακάριος ὁ συνοικῶν 8 γυναικὶ συνετῇ, καὶ ὃς ἐν γλώσσει οὐκ ὠλίσθησε, καὶ ὃς οὐκ ἐδούλευσεν ἀναξίῳ αὐτοῦ. Μακάριος ὃς εἶρε φρόνησιν, 9 καὶ ὁ διηγούμενος εἰς ὧτα ἀκούοντων. Ὡς μέγας ὁ εὐρὼν 10 σοφίαν, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἔστιν ὑπὲρ τὸν φοβούμενον τὸν Κύριον. Φόβος Κυρίου ὑπὲρ πᾶν ὑπερέβαλεν, ὁ κρατῶν αὐτοῦ τίνοι 11 ὁμοιωθήσεται;

Πᾶσαν πληγὴν καὶ μὴ πληγὴν καρδίας, καὶ πᾶσαν πονη- 13 ρίαν καὶ μὴ πονηρίαν γυναικός· πᾶσαν ἐπαγωγὴν καὶ μὴ 14 ἐπαγωγὴν μισούντων, καὶ πᾶσαν ἐκδίκησιν καὶ μὴ ἐκδίκησιν ἐχθρῶν. Οὐκ ἔστι κεφαλὴ ὑπὲρ κεφαλὴν ὄψεως, καὶ οὐκ 15 ἔστι θυμὸς ὑπὲρ θυμὸν ἐχθροῦ.

Συνοικῆσαι λέοντι καὶ δράκοντι εὐδοκήσω, ἢ ἐνοικῆσαι 16 μετὰ γυναικὸς πονηρᾶς. Πονηρία γυναικὸς ἄλλοιοῖ τὴν 17 ὄρασιν αὐτῆς, καὶ σκοτοῖ τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτῆς ὡς σάκκον. Ἀναμέσον τοῦ πλησίον αὐτοῦ ἀναπείσεται ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς, 18 καὶ ἀκούσας ἀνεστέναιξε πικρά. Μικρὰ πᾶσα κακία πρὸς 19 κακίαν γυναικός· κλήρος ἁμαρτωλοῦ ἐπιπέσοι αὐτῇ.

Ἀνάβασις ἀμμώδης ἐν ποσὶ πρεσβυτέρου· οὕτως γυνὴ 20 γλωσσώδης ἀνδρὶ ἡσύχῳ. Μὴ προσπέσης ἐπὶ κάλλος 21 γυναικός, καὶ γυναῖκα μὴ ἐπιποθήσης. Ὅργη καὶ ἀναίδεια 22 καὶ αἰσχύνη μεγάλη, γυνὴ ἐὰν ἐπιχορηγῇ τῷ ἀνδρὶ αὐτῆς. Καρδία ταπεινὴ καὶ πρόσωπον σκυθρωπὸν καὶ πληγὴ 23 καρδίας γυνὴ πονηρά· χεῖρες παρειμένα καὶ γόνατα παρα- 24 λελυμένα, ἥτις οὐ μακαριεῖ τὸν ἄνδρα αὐτῆς. Ἀπὸ γυναι- 25 κὸς ἀρχὴ ἁμαρτίας, καὶ δι' αὐτὴν ἀποθνήσκομεν πάντες. Μὴ δῶς ὕδατι διέξοδον, μηδὲ γυναικὶ πωνηρὰ ἐξουσίαν. 26 Εἰ μὴ πορεύεται κατὰ χεῖρά σου, ἀπὸ τῶν σαρκῶν σου 26 ἀπότεμε αὐτήν.

Γυναικὸς ἀγαθῆς μακάριος ὁ ἀνὴρ, καὶ ἀριθμὸς τῶν 26 ἡμερῶν αὐτοῦ διπλάσιος. Γυνὴ ἀνδρεία εὐφραίνει τὸν ἄνδρα 2 αὐτῆς, καὶ τὰ ἔτη αὐτοῦ πληρῶσει ἐν εἰρήνῃ. Γυνὴ ἀγαθὴ 3 μερὶς ἀγαθῆ, ἐν μερίδι φοβουμένων Κυρίου δοθήσεται. Πλουσίον δὲ καὶ πτωχοῦ καρδία ἀγαθῆ, ἐν παντὶ καιρῷ 4 πρόσωπον ἱλαρόν.

Ἀπὸ τριῶν εὐλαβήθη ἡ καρδία μου, καὶ ἐπὶ τῷ τετάρτῳ 5 προσώπῳ ἐδεήθην· διαβολὴν πόλεως, καὶ ἐκκλησίαν ὄχλου, καὶ καταψευσμὸν ὑπὲρ θάνατον, πάντα μοχθηρά. Ἄλγος 6 καρδίας καὶ πένθος γυνὴ ἀντίζηλος ἐπὶ γυναικὶ, καὶ μᾶστιξ γλώσσης πᾶσιν ἐπικοινωνοῖσα. Βοοζύγιον σαλευόμενον 7 γυνὴ πονηρὰ, ὁ κρατῶν αὐτῆς ὡς ὁ δρασσόμενος σκορπίον. Ὅργη μεγάλη γυνὴ μέθυσος, καὶ ἀσχημοσύνην αὐτῆς οὐ 8 συγκαλύψει. Πορνεία γυναικὸς ἐν μετεωρισμοῖς ὀφθαλμῶν, 9

- 10 καὶ ἐν τοῖς βλεφάροις αὐτῆς γνωσθήσεται. Ἐπὶ θυγατρὶ
ἀδιατρέπτῳ στερέωσον φυλακὴν, ἵνα μὴ εὐροῦσα ἄνεσιν
11 ἑαυτῇ χρήσεται. Ὅπισω ἀναιδοῦς ὀφθαλμοῦ φύλαξαι, καὶ
12 μὴ θαυμάσης ἐὰν εἰς σὲ πλημμελήσῃ. Ὡς διψῶν ὁδοιπόρος
τὸ στόμα ἀνοίγει, καὶ ἀπὸ παντὸς ὕδατος τοῦ συνέγγυς
πίεται, κατέναντι παντὸς πασσάλου καθήσεται, καὶ ἔναντι
βέλους ἀνοίξει φαρέτραν.
13 Χάρις γυναικὸς τέρψει τὸν ἄνδρα αὐτῆς, καὶ τὰ ὅσα
14 αὐτοῦ πιανεῖ ἢ ἐπιστήμη αὐτῆς. Δόσις Κυρίου γυνὴ
σιγηρὰ, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀντάλλαγμα πεπαιδευμένης ψυχῆς.
15 Χάρις ἐπὶ χάριτι γυνὴ αἰσχυνηρὰ, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι σταθμὸς
16 πᾶς ἄξιος ἐγκρατοῦς ψυχῆς. Ἥλιος ἀνατέλλων ἐν ὑψίστοις
Κυρίου, καὶ κάλλος ἀγαθῆς γυναικὸς ἐν κόσμῳ οἰκίας αὐτοῦ.
17 Λύχνος ἐκλάμπων ἐπὶ λυχνίας ἀγίας, καὶ κάλλος προσώπου
18 ἐπὶ ἡλικίᾳ στασίμῃ. Στύλοι χρύσειοι ἐπὶ βάσεως ἀργυρᾶς,
καὶ πόδες ὠραῖοι ἐπὶ στέρνοις εὐσταθοῦς.
28 Ἐπὶ δυσὶ λελύπηται ἡ καρδιά μου, καὶ ἐπὶ τῷ τρίτῳ
θυμὸς μοι ἐπῆλθεν· ἄνθρωπος πολεμιστὴς ὑστερῶν δι' ἔνδειαν,
καὶ ἄνδρες συνετοὶ ἐὰν σκυβαλισθῶσιν· ἐπανάγων ἀπὸ
δικαιοσύνης ἐπὶ ἁμαρτίαν, ὃ Κύριος ἐτοιμάσει εἰς ῥομφαίαν
29 αὐτόν. Μόλις ἐξελεύεται ἔμπορος ἀπὸ πλημμελείας, καὶ οὐ
δικαιωθήσεται κάπηλος ἀπὸ ἁμαρτίας.
27 Χαρὶν ἀδιαφόρου πολλοὶ ἤμαρτον, καὶ ὁ ζητῶν πληθύνει
2 ἀποστρέφει ὀφθαλμόν. Ἀναμέσον ἀρμῶν λίθων παγίησεται
πάσσαλος, καὶ ἀναμέσον πράσεως καὶ ἀγορασμοῦ συντριβή-
3 σεται ἁμαρτία. Ἐὰν μὴ ἐν φόβῳ Κυρίου κρατήσῃ κατὰ
4 σπουδὴν, ἐν τάχει καταστραφήσεται αὐτοῦ ὁ οἶκος. Ἐν
σεισμάτι κοσκίνου διαμένει κοπρία, οὕτως σκύβαλα ἀνθρώ-
5 πον ἐν λογισμῷ αὐτοῦ. Σκευὴ κεραμέως δοκιμάζει κάμιнос,
6 καὶ πειρασμὸς ἀνθρώπου ἐν διαλογισμῷ αὐτοῦ. Γεώργιον
ξύλου ἐκφαίνει ὁ καρπὸς αὐτοῦ, οὕτως λόγος ἐνθυμήματος
καρδίας ἀνθρώπου.
7 Πρὸ λογισμοῦ μὴ ἐπαινέσῃς ἄνδρα, οὗτος γὰρ πειρασμὸς
8 ἀνθρώπων. Ἐὰν διώκῃς τὸ δίκαιον, καταλήψῃ, καὶ ἐνδύσῃ
9 αὐτὸ ὡς ποδήρη δόξης. Πετεινὰ πρὸς τὰ ὅμοια αὐτοῖς κατα-
λύσει, καὶ ἀλήθεια πρὸς τοὺς ἐργαζομένους αὐτὴν ἐπανήξει.
10 Λέων θήραν ἐνεδρεύει, οὕτως ἁμαρτίαι ἐργαζομένους ἀδικα.
11 Διήγησις εὐσεβοῦς διαπαντὸς σοφία, ὃ δὲ ἄφρων ὡς σελήνη
12 ἀλλοιοῦται. Εἰς μέσον ἀσυνέτων συντήρησον καιρὸν, εἰς
13 μέσον δὲ διανοουμένων ἐνδελέχιζε. Διήγησις μωρῶν προσ-
14 ὄχθισμα, καὶ ὁ γέλως αὐτῶν ἐν σπατάλῃ ἁμαρτίας. Λαλιὰ
πολυόρκου ὀρθώσει τρίχας, καὶ ἡ μάχη αὐτῶν ἐμφραγμὸς
15 ὤτιων. Ἐκχυσίς αἵματος μάχη ὑπερηφάνων, καὶ ἡ διαλο-
δότησις αὐτῶν ἀκοὴ μοχθηρά.
16 Ὁ ἀποκαλύπτων μυστήρια ἀπώλεσε πίστιν, καὶ οὐ μὴ
17 εὖρῃ φίλον πρὸς τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ. Στέρξον φίλον, καὶ
πιστώθητι μετ' αὐτοῦ· ἐὰν δὲ ἀποκαλύψῃς τὰ μυστήρια
18 αὐτοῦ, οὐ μὴ καταδώξῃς ὀπίσω αὐτοῦ. Καθὼς γὰρ ἀπώ-
λεσεν ἄνθρωπος τὸν ἐχθρὸν αὐτοῦ, οὕτως ἀπώλεσας τὴν
19 φιλίαν τοῦ πλησίου· καὶ ὡς πετεινὸν ἐκ χειρὸς σου ἀπελύ-
σας, οὕτως ἀφήκας τὸν πλησίον, καὶ οὐ θηρεύεις αὐτόν.
20 Μὴ αὐτὸν διώξῃς, ὅτι μακρὰν ἀπέστη, καὶ ἐξέφυγεν ὡς

woman may be known in her haughty looks and eyelids. ¹⁰ If thy daughter be shameless, keep her in straitly, lest she abuse herself through overmuch liberty. ¹¹ Watch over an impudent eye: and marvel not if she trespass against thee. ¹² She will open her mouth, as a thirsty traveller when he hath found a fountain, and drink of every water near her: by every hedge will she sit down, and open her quiver against every arrow.

¹³ The grace of a wife delighteth her husband, and her discretion will fatten his bones. ¹⁴ A silent and loving woman is a gift of the Lord; and there is nothing so much worth as a mind well instructed. ¹⁵ A shamefaced and faithful woman is a double grace, and her continent mind cannot be valued. ¹⁶ As the sun when it ariseth in the high heaven; so is the beauty of a good wife in the ordering of her house. ¹⁷ As the clear light is upon the holy candlestick: so is the beauty of the face in ripe age. ¹⁸ As the golden pillars are upon the sockets of silver; so are the fair feet with a constant heart.

²³ There be two things that grieve my heart; and the third maketh me angry: a man of war that suffereth poverty; and men of understanding that are not set by: and one that returneth from righteousness to sin; the Lord prepareth such an one for the sword. ²⁹ A merchant shall hardly keep himself from doing wrong; and an huckster shall not be freed from sin.

Many have sinned for a small matter; and he that seeketh for abundance will turn his eyes away. ² As a nail sticketh fast between the joinings of the stones; so doth sin stick close between buying and selling. ³ Unless a man hold himself diligently in the fear of the Lord, his house shall soon be overthrown. ⁴ As when one sifteth with a sieve, the refuse remaineth; so the filth of man in his talk. ⁵ The furnace proveth the potter's vessels; so the trial of man is in his reasoning. ⁶ The fruit declareth if the tree have been dressed; so is the utterance of a conceit in the heart of man.

⁷ Praise no man before thou hearest him speak; for this is the trial of men. ⁸ If thou followest righteousness, thou shalt obtain her, and put her on, as a glorious long robe. ⁹ The birds will resort unto their like; so will truth return unto them that practise in her. ¹⁰ As the lion lieth in wait for the prey; so sin for them that work iniquity. ¹¹ The discourse of a godly man is always with wisdom; but a fool changeth as the moon. ¹² If thou be among the indiscreet, observe the time; but be continually among men of understanding. ¹³ The discourse of fools is irksome, and their sport is the wantonness of sin. ¹⁴ The talk of him that sweareth much maketh the hair stand upright; and their brawls make one stop his ears. ¹⁵ The strife of the proud is bloodshedding, and their revilings are grievous to the ear.

¹⁶ Whoso discovereth secrets loseth his credit; and shall never find friend to his mind. ¹⁷ Love thy friend, and be faithful unto him: but if thou bewrayest his secrets, follow no more after him. ¹⁸ For as a man hath destroyed his enemy; so hast thou lost the love of thy neighbour. ¹⁹ As one that letteth a bird go out of his hand, so hast thou let thy neighbour go, and shalt not get him again. ²⁰ Follow after him no more, for he is too far off; he is as a roe

escaped out of the snare. ²¹ As for a wound, it may be bound up; and after reviling there may be reconciliation: but he that bewrayeth secrets is without hope. ²² He that winketh with the eyes worketh evil: and he that knoweth him will depart from him. ²³ When thou art present, he will speak sweetly, and will admire thy words: but at the last he will writhe his mouth, and slander thy sayings. ²⁴ I have hated many things, but nothing like him; for the Lord will hate him.

²⁵ Whoso casteth a stone on high casteth it on his own head; and a deceitful stroke shall make wounds. ²⁶ Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein: and he that setteth a trap shall be taken therein. ²⁷ He that worketh mischief, it shall fall upon him, and he shall not know whence it cometh. ²⁸ Mockery and reproach are from the proud; but vengeance, as a lion, shall lie in wait for him. ²⁹ They that rejoice at the fall of the righteous shall be taken in the snare; and anguish shall consume them before they die. ³⁰ Malice and wrath, even these are abominations; and the sinful man shall have them both.

He that revengeth shall find vengeance from the Lord, and he will surely keep his sins [in remembrance]. ² Forgive thy neighbour the hurt that he hath done unto thee, so shall thy sins also be forgiven when thou prayest. ³ One man beareth hatred against another, and doth he seek pardon from the Lord? ⁴ He sheweth no mercy to a man, which is like himself: and doth he ask forgiveness of his own sins? ⁵ If he that is but flesh nourish hatred, who will intreat for pardon of his sins? ⁶ Remember thy end, and let thy enmity cease; [remember] corruption and death, and abide in the commandments. ⁷ Remember the commandments, and bear no malice to thy neighbour: [remember] the covenant of the Highest, and wink at ignorance. ⁸ Abstain from strife, and thou shalt diminish thy sins: for a furious man will kindle strife.

⁹ A sinful man disquieteth friends, and maketh debate among them that be at peace. ¹⁰ As the matter of the fire is, so it burneth: and as a man's strength is, so is his wrath; and according to his riches his anger riseth; and the stronger they are which contend, the more they will be inflamed. ¹¹ An hasty contention kindleth a fire: and an hasty fighting sheddeth blood. ¹² If thou blow the spark, it shall burn: if thou spit upon it, it shall be quenched: and both these come out of thy mouth.

¹³ Curse the whisperer and double-tongued: for such have destroyed many that were at peace. ¹⁴ A backbiting tongue hath disquieted many, and driven them from nation to nation: strong cities hath it pulled down, and overthrown the houses of great men. ¹⁵ A backbiting tongue hath cast out virtuous women, and deprived them of their labours. ¹⁶ Whoso hearkeneth unto it shall never find rest, and never dwell quietly.

¹⁷ The stroke of the whip maketh marks in the flesh: but the stroke of the tongue breaketh the bones. ¹⁸ Many have fallen by the edge of the sword: but not so many as have fallen by the tongue. ¹⁹ Well is he that is defended from it, and hath not passed through the venom thereof, who hath not drawn the yoke thereof, nor hath been bound in her bands. ²⁰ For the yoke thereof is a yoke of iron, and

δορκὰς ἐκ παγίδος. Ὅτι θραύσμα ἐστὶ καταδῆσαι, καὶ ²¹ λαιδορίας ἐστὶ διαλλαγή· ὁ δὲ ἀποκαλύψας μυστήρια ἀπῆλπισε. Διανεύων ὀφθαλμῷ τεκταίνει κακὰ, καὶ οὐδεὶς αὐτὸν ²² ἀποστήσει ἀπ' αὐτοῦ. Ἀπέναντι τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν σου γλυκανεὶ στόμα σου, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν λόγων σου ἐκθανμάσει, ὕστερον δὲ διαστρέψει τὸ στόμα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν τοῖς λόγοις σου δώσει σκάνδαλον. Πολλὰ ἐμίσησα καὶ οὐχ ὁμοίωσα ²⁴ αὐτῷ, καὶ ὁ Κύριος μισήσει αὐτόν.

Ὁ βάλλων λίθον εἰς ὕψος ἐπὶ κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ βάλλει, καὶ ²⁵ πληγὴν δολία διελεῖ τραύματα. Ὁ ὀρύσσων βόθρον εἰς ²⁶ αὐτὸν ἐμπεσεῖται, καὶ ὁ ἰστῶν παγίδα ἐν αὐτῇ ἀλώσεται. Ὁ ποιῶν πονηρὰ εἰς αὐτὸν κυλισθήσεται, καὶ οὐ μὴ ἐπιγνῶ ²⁷ πόθεν ἦκει αὐτῷ. Ἐμπαιγμὸς καὶ ὀνειδισμὸς ὑπερηφάνων, ²⁸ καὶ ἡ ἐκδίκησις ὡς λέων ἐνεδρεύσει αὐτόν. Παγίδι ἀλώ- ²⁹ σονται οἱ εὐφραϊνόμενοι πτώσει εὐσεβῶν, καὶ ὀδύνη καταναλώσει αὐτοὺς πρὸ τοῦ θανάτου αὐτῶν. Μῆνις καὶ ὀργή, ³⁰ καὶ ταῦτά ἐστι βδελύγματα, καὶ ἀνὴρ ἁμαρτωλὸς ἐγκρατὴς ἔσται αὐτῶν.

Ὁ ἐκδίκων παρὰ Κυρίου εὕρησει ἐκδίκησιν, καὶ τὰς ²⁸ ἁμαρτίας αὐτοῦ διατηρῶν διατηρήσει. Ἄφες ἀδίκημα τῷ ² πλησίον σου, καὶ τότε δεηθέντος σου αἱ ἁμαρτίαι σου λυθίσονται. Ἀνθρώπος ἀνθρώπῳ συντηρεῖ ὀργὴν, καὶ παρὰ ³ Κυρίου ζητεῖ ἴασιν. Ἐπ' ἀνθρώπον ὅμοιον αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔχει ⁴ ἔλεος, καὶ περὶ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν αὐτοῦ δεῖται. Αὐτὸς σὰρξ ὢν ⁵ διατηρεῖ μῆνιν, τίς ἐξιλάσεται τὰς ἁμαρτίας αὐτοῦ; Μνή- ⁶ σθητι τὰ ἔσχατα, καὶ παῦσαι ἔχθραίνων· καταφθορὰν καὶ θάνατον, καὶ ἔμμενε ἐντολαῖς. Μνήσθητι ἐντολῶν, καὶ μὴ ⁷ μνησίσης τῷ πλησίον· καὶ διαθήκην ὑψιστου, καὶ πάριδε ἄγνοιαν. Ἀπόσχου ἀπὸ μάχης, καὶ ἐλαττώσεις ἁμαρτίας· ⁸ ἀνθρώπος γὰρ θυμῶδης ἐκκαύσει μάχην.

Καὶ ἀνὴρ ἁμαρτωλὸς ταραξεί φίλους, καὶ ἀναμέσον ⁹ εἰρηνευόντων ἐμβάλλει διαβολήν. Κατὰ τὴν ὕλην πυρὸς ¹⁰ οὕτως ἐκκαυθήσεται, κατὰ τὴν ἰσχὺν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ὁ θυμὸς αὐτοῦ ἔσται, καὶ κατὰ τὸν πλοῦτον ἀνυψώσει ὀργὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ κατὰ τὴν στερήωσιν τῆς μάχης ἐκκαυθήσεται. Ἐρις ¹¹ κατασπευδομένη ἐκκαίει πῦρ, καὶ μάχη κατασπεύδουσα ἐκχέει αἷμα. Ἐὰν φυσῇσθης σπινθήρᾳ ἐκκαήσεται, καὶ ἐὰν ¹² πτύσῃς ἐπ' αὐτὸν σβεσθήσεται· καὶ ἀμφότερα ἐκ τοῦ στόματός σου ἐκπορεύεται.

Ψίθυρον καὶ δίγλωσσον καταρᾶσθαι, πολλοὺς γὰρ εἰρη- ¹³ νεύοντας ἀπόλεσαν. Γλώσσα τρίτη πολλοὺς ἐσάλειψε, καὶ ¹⁴ διέστησεν αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ ἔθνους εἰς ἔθνος, καὶ πόλεις ὀχυρὰς καθεῖλε, καὶ οἰκίας μεγιστάνων κατέστρεψε. Γλώσσα τρίτη ¹⁵ γυναῖκας ἀνδρείας ἐξέβαλε, καὶ ἐστέρησεν αὐτὰς τῶν πόνων αὐτῶν. Ὁ προσέχων αὐτῇ οὐ μὴ εὖρῃ ἀνάπανσιν, οὐδὲ ¹⁶ κατασκηνώσει μετ' ἡσυχίας.

Πληγὴν μαστιγὸς ποιεῖ μώλωπας, πληγὴ δὲ γλώσσης ¹⁷ συγκλάσει ὅσατά. Πολλοὶ ἔπεσαν ἐν στόματι μαχαίρας, ¹⁸ καὶ οὐχ ὡς οἱ πεπτωκότες διὰ γλώσσαν. Μακάριος ὁ ¹⁹ σκεπασθεὶς ἀπ' αὐτῆς, ὃς οὐ διήλθεν ἐν τῷ θυμῷ αὐτῆς, ὃς οὐχ εἴλκυσε τὸν ζυγὸν αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐν τοῖς δεσμοῖς αὐτῆς οὐκ ἐδέθη. Ὁ γὰρ ζυγὸς αὐτῆς ζυγὸς σιδηροῦς, καὶ οἱ δεσμοὶ ²⁰

21 αὐτῆς δεσμοὶ χάλκεοι. Θάνατος πονηρὸς ὁ θάνατος αὐτῆς,
 22 καὶ λυσιτελὴς μᾶλλον ὁ ἄδης αὐτῆς. Οὐ μὴ κρατήσῃ εὖσε-
 23 βῶν, καὶ ἐν τῇ φλογὶ αὐτῆς οὐ καήσονται. Οἱ καταλείποντες
 Κύριον ἐμπεσοῦνται εἰς αὐτὴν, καὶ ἐν αὐτοῖς ἐκκαήσεται,
 καὶ οὐ μὴ σβεσθῇ· ἐξαποσταλήσεται ἐπ' αὐτοῖς ὡς λέων,
 καὶ ὡς πάρδαλις λυμανεῖται αὐτούς.

24 Ἴδε περίφραξον τὸ κτῆμά σου ἀκάνθαις, τὸ ἀργύριόν σου
 25 καὶ τὸ χρυσίον κατάδησον· καὶ τοῖς λόγοις σου ποίησον
 ζυγὸν καὶ σταθμὸν, καὶ τῷ στόματί σου ποίησον θύραν καὶ
 26 μοχλόν. Πρόσεχε μήπως ὀλισθήσῃς ἐν αὐτῇ, μὴ πέσῃς
 κατέναντι ἐνεδρεύνοντος.

29 Ὁ ποιῶν ἔλεος δανειεῖ τῷ πλησίον, καὶ ὁ ἐπισχύων τῇ
 2 χειρὶ αὐτοῦ τηρεῖ ἐντολάς. Δάνεισον τῷ πλησίον ἐν καιρῷ
 χρείας αὐτοῦ, καὶ πάλιν ἀπόδος τῷ πλησίον εἰς τὸν καιρόν.
 3 Στερέωσον λόγον, καὶ πιστώθητι μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν παντὶ
 4 καιρῷ εὐρήσεις τὴν χρείαν σου. Πολλοὶ ὡς εὔρεμα ἐνόμισαν
 5 δάνος, καὶ παρέσχον πόνον τοῖς βοηθήσασιν αὐτοῖς. Ἔως
 οὐ λάβῃ, καταφιλήσῃ χεὶρα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν χρημάτων
 τοῦ πλησίον ταπεινώσει φωνήν· καὶ ἐν καιρῷ ἀποδόσεως
 παρελκύσει χρόνον, καὶ ἀποδώσει λόγους ἀκηδίας, καὶ τὸν
 6 καιρὸν αἰτιάσεται. Ἐὰν ἰσχύσῃ, μόλις κομίσεται τὸ ἥμισυ,
 καὶ λογιεῖται αὐτὸ ὡς εὔρεμα· εἰ δὲ μὴ, ἀπεστέρησεν αὐτὸν
 τῶν χρημάτων αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐκτήσατο αὐτὸν ἐχθρὸν δωρεάν·
 κατάρας καὶ λοιδορίας ἀποδώσει αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀντὶ δόξης ἀπο-
 7 δώσει αὐτῷ ἀτιμίαν. Πολλοὶ χάριν πονηρίας ἀπέστρεψαν,
 8 ἀποστερηθῆναι δωρεὰν εὐλαβήθησαν. Πλὴν ἐπὶ ταπεινῷ
 μακροθύμησον, καὶ ἐπ' ἐλεημοσύνην μὴ παρελκύσῃς αὐτόν.
 9 Χάριν ἐντολῆς ἀντιλαβοῦ πένητος, καὶ κατὰ τὴν ἔνδειαν
 αὐτοῦ μὴ ἀποστρέψῃς αὐτὸν κενόν.

10 Ἀπόλεσον ἀργύριον δι' ἀδελφὸν καὶ φίλον, καὶ μὴ ἰωθήτω
 11 ὑπὸ τὸν λίθον εἰς ἀπώλειαν. Θές τὸν θησαυρόν σου κατ'
 ἐντολὰς ὑψίστου, καὶ λυσιτελήσῃ σοι μᾶλλον ἢ τὸ χρυσίον.
 12 Σύγκλεισον ἐλεημοσύνην ἐν τοῖς ταμείοις σου, καὶ αὕτη
 13 ἐξελεῖταί σε ἐκ πάσης κακώσεως. Ὑπὲρ ἀσπίδα κράτους,
 καὶ ὑπὲρ δόρυ ἀλκῆς κατέναντι ἐχθροῦ πολεμήσει ὑπὲρ σοῦ.
 14 Ἀνὴρ ἀγαθὸς ἐγγυήσεται τὸν πλησίον, καὶ ὁ ἀπολωλεκὼς
 15 αἰσχύνῃ καταλείψει αὐτόν. Χάριτας ἐγγύου μὴ ἐπιλάβῃ,
 16 ἔδωκε γὰρ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ὑπὲρ σοῦ. Ἀγαθὰ ἐγγύου
 17 ἀνατρέψει ἀμαρτωλὸς, καὶ ἀχάριστος ἐν διανοίᾳ ἐγκατα-
 λείψει ῥυσάμενον.

18 Ἐγγύη πολλοὺς ἀπώλεσε κατευθύνοντας, καὶ ἐσάλειψεν
 αὐτοὺς ὡς κύμα θαλάσσης· ἀνδρας δυνατοὺς ἀπώκισε, καὶ
 19 ἐπλανήθησαν ἐν ἔθνεσιν ἁλλοτρίοις. Ἀμαρτωλὸς ἐμπεσὼν
 εἰς ἐγγύην, καὶ διώκων ἐργολαβείας ἐμπεσεῖται εἰς κρίσεις.
 20 Ἀντιλαβοῦ τοῦ πλησίον κατὰ δύναμίν σου, καὶ πρόσεχε
 σεαυτῷ μὴ ἐμπίεσῃς.

21 Ἀρχὴ ζωῆς ὕδωρ, καὶ ἄρτος, καὶ ἱμάτιον, καὶ οἶκος
 22 καλύπτων ἀσχημοσύνην. Κρείσσων βίος πτωχοῦ ὑπὸ
 23 σκέπην δοκῶν, ἢ ἐδέσματα λαμπρὰ ἐν ἁλλοτρίοις. Ἐπὶ
 24 μικρῷ καὶ μεγάλῳ εὐδοκίαν ἔχε. Ζωὴ πονηρὰ ἐξ οἰκίας εἰς

the bands thereof are bands of brass. ²¹ The death thereof is an evil death, the grave were better than it. ²² It shall not have rule over them that fear God, neither shall they be burned with the flame thereof. ²³ Such as forsake the Lord shall fall into it; and it shall burn in them, and not be quenched; it shall be sent upon them as a lion, and devour them as a leopard. ²⁴ Look that thou hedge thy possession about with thorns, and bind up thy silver and gold, ²⁵ and weigh thy words in a balance, and make a door and bar for thy mouth. ²⁶ Beware thou slide not by it, lest thou fall before him that lieth in wait.

He that is merciful will lend unto his neighbour; and he that strengtheneth his hand keepeth the commandments. ² Lend to thy neighbour in time of his need, and pay thou thy neighbour again in due season. ³ Keep thy word, and deal faithfully with him, and thou shalt always find the thing that is necessary for thee. ⁴ Many, when a thing was lent them, reckoned it to be found, and put them to trouble that helped them. ⁵ Till he hath received, he will kiss a man's hand; and for his neighbour's money he will speak submissively: but when he should repay, he will prolong the time, and return words of grief, and complain of the time. ⁶ If he prevail, he shall hardly receive the half, and he will count as if he had found it: if not, he hath deprived him of his money, and he hath gotten him an enemy without cause: he payeth him with cursings and railings; and for honour he will pay him disgrace. ⁷ Many therefore have refused to lend for other men's ill dealing, fearing to be defrauded. ⁸ Yet have thou patience with a man in poor estate, and delay not to shew him mercy. ⁹ Help the poor for the commandment's sake, and turn him not away because of his poverty.

¹⁰ Lose thy money for thy brother and thy friend, and let it not rust under a stone to be lost. ¹¹ Lay up thy treasure according to the commandments of the most High, and it shall bring thee more profit than gold. ¹² Shut up alms in thy storehouses: and it shall deliver thee from all affliction. ¹³ It shall fight for thee against thine enemies better than a mighty shield and strong spear. ¹⁴ An honest man is surety for his neighbour: but he that is impudent will forsake him. ¹⁵ Forget not the friendship of thy surety, for he hath given his life for thee. ¹⁶ A sinner will overthrow the good estate of his surety: ¹⁷ and he that is of an unthankful mind will leave him [in danger] that delivered him.

¹⁸ Suretyship hath undone many of good estate, and shaken them as a wave of the sea: mighty men hath it driven from their houses, so that they wandered among strange nations. ¹⁹ A wicked man transgressing the commandments of the Lord shall fall into suretyship: and he that undertaketh and followeth other men's business for gain shall fall into suits. ²⁰ Help thy neighbour according to thy power, and beware that thou thyself fall not into the same.

²¹ The chief thing for life is water, and bread, and clothing, and a house to cover shame. ²² Better is the life of a poor man in a mean cottage, than delicate fare in another man's house. ²³ Be it little or much, hold thee contented, ²⁴ for it is a miserable life to go from

house to house: for where thou art a stranger, thou darest not open thy mouth. ²⁵ Thou shalt entertain, and feast, and have no thanks: moreover thou shalt hear bitter words: ²⁶ Come, thou stranger, and furnish a table, and feed me of that thou hast ready. ²⁷ Give place, thou stranger, to an honourable man; my brother cometh to be lodged, and I have need of mine house. These things are grievous to a man of understanding; the upbraiding of houseroom, and reproaching of the lender.

He that loveth his son causeth him oft to feel the rod, that he may have joy of him in the end. ² He that chastiseth his son shall have joy in him, and shall rejoice of him among his acquaintance. ³ He that teacheth his son grieveth the enemy: and before his friends he shall rejoice of him. ⁴ Though his father die, yet he is as though he were not dead: for he hath left one behind him that is like himself. ⁵ While he lived, he saw and rejoiced in him: and when he died, he was not sorrowful. ⁶ He left behind him an avenger against his enemies, and one that shall requite kindness to his friends.

⁷ He that maketh too much of his son shall bind up his wounds; and his bowels will be troubled at every cry. ⁸ An horse not broken becometh headstrong: and a child left to himself will be wilful. ⁹ Cocker thy child, and he shall make thee afraid: play with him, and he will bring thee to heaviness. ¹⁰ Laugh not with him, lest thou have sorrow with him, and lest thou gnash thy teeth in the end. ¹¹ Give him not liberty in youth. ¹² Beat his sides while he is still young, lest becoming stubborn, he disobey thee. ¹³ Train up thy son, and exercise him with work, lest by thy looseness thou stumble. ¹⁴ And overlook not his ignorance. ¹⁵ Bow down his neck in his youth.

¹⁶ Better is the poor, being sound and strong of constitution, than a rich man that is afflicted in his body. ¹⁷ Health and good estate of body are above all gold, and a strong body above infinite wealth. ¹⁸ There is no riches above a sound body, and no joy above the joy of the heart. ¹⁹ Death is better than a bitter life or continual sickness. ²⁰ Delicacies poured upon a mouth shut up are as messes of meat set upon a grave.

²¹ What good doeth the offering unto an idol? for neither can it eat nor smell: so is he that is persecuted of the Lord. ²² He seeth with his eyes and groaneth, as an eunuch that embraceth a virgin and sigheth. ²³ Give not over thy mind to heaviness, and afflict not thyself in thine own counsel. ²⁴ The gladness of the heart is the life of man, and the joyfulness of a man prolongeth his days. ²⁵ Love thine own soul, and comfort thy heart, remove sorrow far from thee: for sorrow hath killed many, and there is no profit therein. ²⁶ Envy and wrath shorten the life, and carefulness bringeth age before the time.

²⁷ I awaked up last of all, as one that gathereth after the grape-gatherers: by the blessing of the Lord I profited, and filled my winepress like a gatherer of grapes. ²⁸ Consider that I laboured not for myself only, but for all them

οίκίαν, καὶ οὐ παροικήσει, οὐκ ἀνοίξει στόμα. Ξενεῖς καὶ ²⁵
ποτιεῖς εἰς ἀχάριστα, καὶ πρὸς ἐπὶ τούτοις πικρὰ ἀκούσῃ·
πάρελθε πάροικε, κόσμησον τράπεζαν, καὶ εἴτι ἐν τῇ χειρί ²⁶
σου ψώμισόν με· ἔξελθε πάροικε ἀπὸ προσώπου δόξης, ²⁷
ἐπεξένωταί μοι ὁ ἀδελφὸς, χρεῖα τῆς οἰκίας. Βαρέα ταῦτα ²⁸
ἀνθρώπῳ ἔχοντι φρόνησιν, ἐπιτίμησις οἰκίας καὶ ὀνειδισμὸς
δανειστοῦ.

ΠΕΡΙ ΤΕΚΝΩΝ.

Ὁ ἀγαπῶν τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, ἐνδελεχῆσει μαστιγὰς αὐτῷ, ³⁰
ἵνα εὐφρανθῇ ἐπ' ἐσχάτῳ αὐτοῦ. Ὁ παιδεύων τὸν υἱὸν ²
αὐτοῦ ὀνήσεται ἐπ' αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀναμέσον γνωρίμων ἐπ' αὐτῷ
καυχῆσεται. Ὁ διδάσκων τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ παραζηλώσει τὸν ³
ἐχθρὸν, καὶ ἔναντι φίλων ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἀγαλλιάσεται. Ἐτελεύ- ⁴
τησεν αὐτοῦ ὁ πατήρ, καὶ ὡς οὐκ ἀπέθανεν, ὅμοιον γὰρ
αὐτῷ κατέλιπε μετ' αὐτόν. Ἐν τῇ ζωῇ αὐτοῦ εἶδε καὶ ⁵
εὐφράνθη, καὶ ἐν τῇ τελευτῇ αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔλυπήθη. Ἐναντίον ⁶
ἐχθρῶν κατέλιπεν ἔκδικον, καὶ τοῖς φίλοις ἀνταποδιδόντα
χάριν.

Περιψύχων υἱὸν καταδεσμεύσει τραύματα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπὶ ⁷
πάσῃ βοῇ ταραχθήσεται σπλάγχνα αὐτοῦ. Ἴππος ἀδά- ⁸
μαστος ἀποβαίνει σκληρὸς, καὶ υἱὸς ἀναιμένος ἐκβαίνει
προαλῆς. Τιθήνησον τέκνον καὶ ἐκθαμβήσει σε, σύμπαιζον ⁹
αὐτῷ καὶ λυπήσει σε. Μὴ συγγελάσῃς αὐτῷ ἵνα μὴ συνο- ¹⁰
δυνηθῇς, καὶ ἐπ' ἐσχάτῳ γομφιάσεις τοὺς ὀδόντας σου. Μὴ ¹¹
δῶς αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν ἐν νεότητι. Θλάσον τὰς πλευρὰς αὐτοῦ, ¹²
ὡς ἔστι νήπιος, μήποτε σκληρυνθεὶς ἀπειθήσῃ σοι. Παίδευ- ¹³
σον τὸν υἱόν σου, καὶ ἔργασαι ἐναυτῷ, ἵνα μὴ ἐν τῇ
ἀσχημοσύνῃ σου προσκόψῃ. Καὶ μὴ παρίδῃς τὰς ἀγνοίας ¹⁴
αὐτοῦ. Κάμψον τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ ἐν νεότητι. ¹⁵

ΠΕΡΙ ὙΓΙΕΙΑΣ.

Κρεῖσσων πτωχὸς ὑγιῆς καὶ ἰσχύων τῇ ἔξει, ἢ πλούσιος ¹⁶
μεμαστιγωμένος εἰς σῶμα αὐτοῦ. Ὑγιεία καὶ εὐεξία βέλτιον ¹⁷
παντὸς χρυσίου, καὶ σῶμα εὐρωστον ἢ ὄλβος ἀμέτρητος.
Οὐκ ἔστι πλοῦτος βελτίων ὑγιείας σώματος, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ¹⁸
εὐφροσύνη ὑπὲρ χαρὰν καρδίας. Κρεῖσσων θάνατος ὑπὲρ ¹⁹
ζωὴν πικρὰν, ἢ ἀβρώστημα ἔμμονον. Ἀγαθὰ ἐκκεχυμένα ²⁰
ἐπὶ στόματι κεκλεισμένῳ, θέματα βρωμάτων παρακείμενα
ἐπὶ τάφῳ.

Τί συμφέρεи κάρπωσις εἰδώλῳ; οὔτε γὰρ ἔδεται οὔτε μὴ ²¹
ὀσφρανθῇ· οὕτως ὁ ἐκδιωκόμενος ὑπὸ Κυρίου. Βλέπων ἐν ²²
ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς καὶ στενάζων, ὥσπερ εἰνούχος περιλαμβάνων
παρθένον καὶ στενάζων. Μὴ δῶς εἰς λύπην τὴν ψυχὴν σου, ²³
καὶ μὴ θλίψῃς σεαυτὸν ἐν βουλῇ σου. Εὐφροσύνη καρδίας ²⁴
ζωὴ ἀνθρώπου, καὶ ἀγαλλίαμα ἀνδρὸς μακροήμερουσι.
Ἀγάπα τὴν ψυχὴν σου, καὶ παρακάλει τὴν καρδίαν σου, ²⁵
καὶ λύπην μακρὰν ἀπόστησον ἀπὸ σοῦ· πολλοὺς γὰρ
ἀπέκτεινεν ἡ λύπη, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὠφέλεια ἐν αὐτῇ. Ζῆλος ²⁶
καὶ θυμὸς ἐλαττοῦσιν ἡμέρας, καὶ πρὸ καιροῦ γῆρας ἀγει
μέριμνα.

Ὡς καλαμώμενος ὀπίσω τρυγητῶν, ἐν εὐλογίᾳ Κυρίου ²⁷
ἔφθασα, καὶ ὡς τρυγῶν ἐπλήρωσα ληνόν. Κατανοήσατε ²⁸
ὅτι οὐκ ἐμοὶ μόνῳ ἐκοπίασα, ἀλλὰ πᾶσι τοῖς ζητοῦσι

18 παιδεῖαν. Ἀκούσατέ μου μεγιστᾶνες λαοῦ, καὶ οἱ ἡγού-
 19 μνοι ἐκκλησίας ἐνωτίσασθε. Ὑψὼ καὶ γυναικί, ἀδελφῶ
 καὶ φίλῳ μὴ δῶς ἐξουσίαν ἐπὶ σέ ἐν ζωῇ σου, καὶ μὴ δῶς
 20 ἐτέρῳ τὰ χρήματά σου, ἵνα μὴ μεταμεληθεὶς δέῃ περὶ
 21 αὐτῶν. Ἔως ἔτι ζῆς καὶ πνοὴ ἐν σοὶ, μὴ ἀλλάξῃς σεαυτὸν
 22 πάσῃ σαρκί· κρεῖσσον γάρ ἐστι τὰ τέκνα δεηθῆναι σου, ἢ
 23 σέ ἐμβλέπειν εἰς χεῖρας υἱῶν σου. Ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς ἔργοις
 σου γίνου ὑπεράγων· μὴ δῶς μῶμον ἐν τῇ δόξῃ σου. Ἐν
 ἡμέρᾳ συντελείας ἡμερῶν ζωῆς σου καὶ ἐν καιρῷ τελευτῆς
 διαδὸς κληρονομίαν.

ΠΕΡΙ ΔΟΥΛΩΝ.

24 Χορτάσματα καὶ ῥάβδος καὶ φορτία ὄνῳ, ἄρτος καὶ παι-
 25 δεῖα καὶ ἔργον οἰκέτῃ. Ἔργασαι ἐν παιδί καὶ εὐρήσεις
 26 ἀνάπαυσιν, ἄνες χεῖρας αὐτῷ καὶ ζητήσῃ ἐλευθερίαν. Ζυγὸς
 καὶ ἱμᾶς κάμψουσι τράχηλον, καὶ οἰκέτῃ κακούργῳ στρέβλαι
 27 καὶ βάσανοι. Ἐμβάλε αὐτὸν εἰς ἐργασίαν, ἵνα μὴ ἀργῇ,
 28 πολλὴν γὰρ κακίαν ἐδίδαξεν ἡ ἀργία. Εἰς ἔργα κατὰστη-
 σον καθὼς πρέπει αὐτῷ, κἂν μὴ πειθαρχῇ, βάρυνον τὰς
 πέδας αὐτοῦ.

29 Καὶ μὴ περισσεύσῃς ἐν πάσῃ σαρκί, καὶ ἄνευ κρίσεως
 30 μὴ ποιήσῃς μηδέν. Εἰ ἔστι σοι οἰκέτῃς, ἔστω ὡς σὺ, ὅτι
 31 ἐν αἵματι ἐκτήσω αὐτόν. Εἰ ἔστι σοι οἰκέτῃς, ἄγε αὐτόν
 ὡς σεαυτὸν, ὅτι ὡς ἡ ψυχὴ σου ἐπιδεήσεις αὐτοῦ· ἐὰν
 κακώσῃς αὐτόν, καὶ ἀπάρας ἀποδράῃ, ἐν ποίᾳ ὁδῷ ζητήσεις
 αὐτόν;

31 Κῆναι ἐλπίδες καὶ ψευδεῖς ἀσυνέτῳ ἀνδρὶ, καὶ ἐνύπνια
 2 ἀναπτεροῦσιν ἄφρονας. Ὡς δρασσόμενος σκιᾶς καὶ διώκων
 3 ἄνεμον, οὕτως ὁ ἐπέχων ἐνυπνίοις. Τοῦτο κατὰ τοῦτου
 ὅρασις ἐνυπνίων, κατέναντι πρῶσώπου ὁμοίωμα προσώπου.
 4 Ἀπὸ ἀκαθάρτου τί καθαρισθήσεται; καὶ ἀπὸ ψευδοῦς τί
 5 ἀληθεύσει; Μαντεῖαι καὶ οἰωνισμοὶ καὶ ἐνύπνια, μάταιά
 6 ἐστι, καὶ ὡς ὠδινούσης φαντάζεται καρδιά. Ἐὰν μὴ παρὰ
 ὑψίστου ἀποσταλῇ ἐν ἐπισκοπῇ, μὴ δῶς εἰς αὐτὰ τὴν καρ-
 7 διάν σου. Πολλοὺς ἐπλάνησε τὰ ἐνύπνια, καὶ ἐξέπεσον
 ἐλπίζοντες ἐπ' αὐτοῖς.

8 Ἄνευ ψεύδους συντελεσθήσεται νόμος, καὶ σοφία στόματι
 9 πιστῷ τελείωσις. Ἀνὴρ πεπαιδευμένος ἔγνω πολλὰ, καὶ
 10 ὁ πολυπείρος ἐκδιηγῆσεται σύνεσιν. Ὅς οὐκ ἐπειράθη
 ὀλίγα οἶδεν, ὁ δὲ πεπλανημένος πληθυνεῖ πανουργίαν.
 11 Πολλὰ ἐώρακα ἐν τῇ ἀποπλανήσει μου, καὶ πλείονα τῶν
 12 λόγων μου, σύνεσις μου. Πλεονάκις ἕως θανάτου ἐκινδύ-
 νησα, καὶ διεσώθην τούτων χάριν.

13 Πνεῦμα φοβουμένων Κυρίον ζήσεται, ἡ γὰρ ἐλπίς αὐτῶν
 14 ἐπὶ τὸν σῶζοντα αὐτούς. Ὁ φοβούμενος Κύριον οὐ μὴ
 εὐλαβηθήσεται, καὶ οὐ μὴ δειλιάσῃ, ὅτι αὐτὸς ἐλπίς αὐτοῦ.
 15 Φοβουμένου τὸν Κύριον μακαρία ἡ ψυχὴ· τίς ἐπέχει, καὶ
 16 τίς ἀντιστήριγμα αὐτοῦ; Οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ Κυρίου ἐπὶ τοὺς
 ἀγαπῶντας αὐτόν, ὑπερασπισμὸς δυναστείας καὶ στήριγμα
 17 ἰσχύος, σκέπη ἀπὸ καύσωνος καὶ σκέπη ἀπὸ μεσημβρίας,
 φυλακὴ ἀπὸ προσκόμματος καὶ βοήθεια ἀπὸ πτώματος,
 17 ἀνυψῶν ψυχὴν καὶ φωτίζων ὀφθαλμούς, ἵασιν διδοὺς, ζωὴν
 καὶ εὐλογίαν.

that seek learning. ¹⁸ Hear me, O ye great men of the people, and hearken with your ears, ye rulers of the congregation. ¹⁹ Give not thy son and wife, thy brother and friend, power over thee while thou livest, and give not thy goods to another, lest it repent thee, and thou intreat for the same again. ²⁰ As long as thou livest and hast breath in thee, give not thyself over to any. ²¹ For better it is that thy children should seek to thee, than that thou shouldest stand to their courtesy. ²² In all thy works keep to thyself the preeminence; leave not a stain in thine honour. ²³ At the time when thou shalt end thy days, and finish thy life, distribute thine inheritance.

²⁴ Fodder, a stick, and burdens, are for the ass; and bread, correction, and work, for a servant. ²⁵ If thou set thy servant to labour, thou shalt find rest; but if thou let him go idle, he will seek liberty. ²⁶ A yoke and a collar do bow the neck: so are tortures and torments for an evil servant. ²⁷ Send him to labour, that he be not idle; for idleness teacheth much evil. ²⁸ Set him to work, as is fit for him: if he be not obedient, put on more heavy fetters.

²⁹ But be not excessive toward any; and without discretion do nothing. ³⁰ If thou have a servant, let him be unto thee as thyself, because thou hast bought him with a price. ³¹ If thou have a servant, entreat him as a brother: for thou hast need of him, as of thine own soul: if thou entreat him evil, and he run from thee, which way wilt thou go to seek him?

The hopes of a man void of understanding are vain and false: and dreams lift up fools. ² Whoso regardeth dreams is like him that catcheth at a shadow, and followeth after the wind. ³ The vision of dreams is the resemblance of one thing to another, even as the likeness of a face to a face. ⁴ Of an unclean thing what can be cleansed? and from that thing which is false what truth can come? ⁵ Divinations, and soothsayings, and dreams, are vain: and the heart fancieth, as a woman's heart in travail. ⁶ If they be not sent from the most High in thy visitation, set not thy heart upon them. ⁷ For dreams have deceived many, and they have failed that put their trust in them. ⁸ The law shall be found perfect without lies: and wisdom is perfection to a faithful mouth. ⁹ A man that hath travelled knoweth many things: and he that hath much experience will declare wisdom. ¹⁰ He that hath no experience knoweth little: but he that hath travelled is full of prudence. ¹¹ When I travelled, I saw many things; and I understand more than I can express. ¹² I was oft-times in danger of death: yet I was delivered because of these things.

¹³ The spirit of those that fear the Lord shall live; for their hope is in him that saveth them. ¹⁴ Whoso feareth the Lord shall not fear nor be afraid; for he is his hope. ¹⁵ Blessed is the soul of him that feareth the Lord: to whom doth he look? and who is his strength? ¹⁶ For the eyes of the Lord are upon them that love him, he is their mighty protection and strong stay, a defence from heat, and a cover from the sun at noon, a preservation from stumbling, and an help from falling; ¹⁷ he raiseth up the soul, and lighteneth the eyes: he giveth health, life, and blessing.

¹⁸ He that sacrificeth of a thing wrongfully gotten, his offering is ridiculous; and the gifts of unjust men are not accepted. ¹⁹ The most High is not pleased with the offerings of the wicked; neither is he pacified for sin by the multitude of sacrifices. ²⁰ Whoso bringeth an offering of the goods of the poor doeth as one that killeth the son before his father's eyes. ²¹ The bread of the needy is their life: he that defraudeth him thereof is a man of blood. ²² He that taketh away his neighbour's living slayeth him; and he that defraudeth the labourer his hire is a bloodshedder.

²³ When one buildeth, and another pulleth down, what profit have they then but labour? ²⁴ When one prayeth, and another curseth, whose voice will the Lord hear? ²⁵ He that washeth himself after the touching of a dead body, if he touch it again, what availeth his washing? ²⁶ So is it with a man that fasteth for his sins, and goeth again, and doeth the same: who will hear his prayer? or what doth his humbling profit him?

He that keepeth the law bringeth offerings enough: he that taketh heed to the commandment offereth a peace offering. ² He that requiteth a good turn offereth fine flour; and he that giveth alms sacrificeth praise. ³ To depart from wickedness is a thing pleasing to the Lord; and to forsake unrighteousness is a propitiation.

⁴ Thou shalt not appear empty before the Lord. ⁵ For all these things [are to be done] because of the commandment. ⁶ The offering of the righteous maketh the altar fat, and the sweet savour thereof is before the most High. ⁷ The sacrifice of a just man is acceptable, and the memorial thereof shall never be forgotten.

⁸ Give the Lord his honour with a good eye, and diminish not the firstfruits of thine hands. ⁹ In all thy gifts shew a cheerful countenance, and dedicate thy tithes with gladness. ¹⁰ Give unto the most High according as he hath enriched thee; and as thou hast gotten, give with a cheerful eye. ¹¹ For the Lord recompenseth, and will give thee seven times as much. ¹² Do not think to corrupt with gifts: for such he will not receive: and trust not to unrighteous sacrifices; for the Lord is judge, and with him is no respect of persons. ¹³ He will not accept any person against a poor man, but will hear the prayer of the oppressed. ¹⁴ He will not despise the supplication of the fatherless; nor the widow, when she poureth out her complaint. ¹⁵ Do not the tears run down the widow's cheeks? and is not her cry against him that causeth them to fall?

¹⁶ He that serveth the Lord shall be accepted with favour, and his prayer shall reach unto the clouds. ¹⁷ The prayer of the humble pierceth the clouds: and till it come nigh, he will not be comforted; and will not depart, till the most High shall behold to judge righteously, and execute judgment. ¹⁸ For the Lord will not be slack, neither will the Mighty be patient toward them, till he have smitten in sunder the loins of the unmerciful, and repayed vengeance to the heathen; till he have taken away the multitude of the proud, and broken the sceptre of the unrighteous; ¹⁹ till he have rendered to every man according to his deeds, and to the works of men according to their devices; till he have judged the cause of his people, and made them to rejoice in his mercy. ²⁰ Mercy is seasonable in the time of affliction, as clouds of rain in the time of drought.

Θυσιάζων ἐξ ἀδίκου, προσφορά μεμωκημένη, καὶ οὐκ εἰς 18
εὐδοκίαν μωκήματα ἀνόμων. Οὐκ εὐδοκεῖ ὁ ὑψιστος ἐν 19
προσφοραῖς ἀσεβῶν, οὐδὲ ἐν πλήθει θυσιῶν ἐξιλάσκειται
ἁμαρτίας. Θύων υἱὸν ἔναντι τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, ὁ προσάγων 20
θυσίαν ἐκ χρημάτων πενήτων. Ἄρτος ἐπιδεομένων, ζωὴ 21
πτωχῶν, ὁ ἀποστερῶν αὐτὴν ἄνθρωπος αἱμάτων. Φονεύων 22
τὸν πλησίον ὁ ἀφαιρούμενος συμβίωσιν, καὶ ἐκχέων αἷμα
ὁ ἀποστερῶν μισθὸν μισθίου.

Εἰς οἰκοδομῶν, καὶ εἰς καθαιρῶν, τί ὠφέλησαν πλεῖον 23
ἢ κόπους; Εἰς εὐχόμενος, καὶ εἰς καταρῶμενος, τίνος φωνῆς 24
εἰσακούσεται ὁ δεστότης; Βαπτιζόμενος ἀπὸ νεκροῦ, καὶ 25
πάλιν ἀπτόμενος αὐτοῦ, τί ὠφέλησε τῷ λουτρῷ αὐτοῦ;
Οὕτως ἄνθρωπος νηστεύων ἐπὶ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν αὐτοῦ, καὶ 26
πάλιν πορευόμενος, καὶ τὰ αὐτὰ ποιῶν· τῆς προσευχῆς
αὐτοῦ τίς εἰσακούσεται; καὶ τί ὠφέλησεν ἐν τῷ ταπεινωθῆ-
ναι αὐτόν;

Ὁ συντήρων νόμον πλεονάζει προσφοράς· θυσιάζων 32
σωτηρίου ὁ προσέχων ἐντολαῖς. Ἀνταποδιδὸν χάριν 2
προσφέρων σεμίδαλιν, καὶ ὁ ποιῶν ἐλεημοσύνην θυσιάζων
αἰνέσεως. Εὐδοκία Κυρίου ἀποστήναι ἀπὸ πονηρίας, καὶ 3
ἐξιλασμός ἀποστήναι ἀπὸ ἀδικίας.

Μὴ ὀφθῆς ἐν προσώπῳ Κυρίου κενὸς, πάντα γὰρ ταῦτα 4, 5
χάριν ἐντολῆς. Προσφορά δικαίου λιπαίνει θυσιαστήριον, 6
καὶ ἡ εὐωδία αὐτῆς ἔναντι ὑψίστου. Θυσία ἀνδρὸς δικαίου 7
δεκτὴ, καὶ τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτῆς οὐκ ἐπιλησθήσεται.

Ἐν ἀγαθῷ ὀφθαλμῷ δόξασον τὸν Κύριον, καὶ μὴ σμικ- 8
ρύνῃς ἀπαρχὴν χειρῶν σου. Ἐν πάσῃ δόσει ἰλάρωσον τὸ 9
πρόσωπόν σου, καὶ ἐν εὐφροσύνῃ ἀγίασον δεκάτην. Δὸς 10
ὑψίστῳ κατὰ τὴν δόσιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν ἀγαθῷ ὀφθαλμῷ
καθεύρεμα χειρός. Ὅτι Κύριος ἀνταποδιδούς ἐστι, καὶ 11
ἐπταπλάσια ἀνταποδώσει σοι. Μὴ δωροκόπει, οὐ γὰρ 12
προσδέξεται· καὶ μὴ ἔπεχε θυσία ἀδίκῳ, ὅτι Κύριος κριτὴς
ἐστι, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι παρ' αὐτῷ δόξα προσώπου. Οὐ λήψεται 13
πρόσωπον ἐπὶ πτωχοῦ, καὶ δέησιν ἡδίκημένου εἰσακούσεται.
Οὐ μὴ ὑπερίδῃ ἰκετείαν ὀρφανοῦ, καὶ χήραν ἐὰν ἐκχέῃ 14
λαλίαν. Οὐχὶ δάκρυα χήρας ἐπὶ σιαγόνα καταβαίνει, καὶ 15
ἡ καταβόησις ἐπὶ τῷ καταγαγόντι αὐτά;

Θεραπεύων ἐν εὐδοκίᾳ δεχθήσεται, καὶ ἡ δέησις αὐτοῦ ἕως 16
νεφελῶν συνάψει. Προσευχὴ ταπεινοῦ νεφέλας διήλθε, καὶ 17
ἕως συνεγγίσῃ οὐ μὴ παρακληθῇ, καὶ οὐ μὴ ἀποστή ἕως
ἐπισκέψῃται ὁ ὑψιστος· καὶ κρινεῖ δικαίως, καὶ ποιήσει
κρίσιν. Καὶ ὁ Κύριος οὐ μὴ βραδύνῃ, οὐδὲ μὴ μακροθυ- 18
μήσει ἐπ' αὐτοῖς ἕως ἂν συντρίψῃ ὅσφιν ἀνελεημόνων· καὶ
τοῖς ἔθνεσιν ἀνταποδώσει ἐκδίκησιν, ἕως ἐξάρῃ πλήθος
ὑβριστῶν, καὶ σκῆπτρα ἀδίκων συντρίψῃ, ἕως ἀνταποδῶ 19
ἀνθρώπῳ κατὰ τὰς πράξεις αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὰ ἔργα τῶν ἀνθρώ-
πων κατὰ τὰ ἐνθυμήματα αὐτῶν, ἕως κρινῇ τὴν κρίσιν τοῦ
λαοῦ αὐτοῦ, καὶ εὐφρανεῖ αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ἐλέει αὐτοῦ. Ὠραῖον 20
ἔλεος ἐν καιρῷ θλίψεως αὐτοῦ, ὡς νεφέλαι ὑετοῦ ἐν καιρῷ
ἄβροχίας.

- 33 Ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς, δέσποτα ὁ Θεὸς πάντων, καὶ ἐπίβλεψον·
 2,3 καὶ ἐπίβαλε τὸν φόβον σου ἐπὶ πάντα τὰ ἔθνη. Ἐπαρον τὴν
 χεῖρά σου ἐπὶ ἔθνη ἀλλότρια, καὶ ἰδέτωσαν τὴν δυναστείαν
 4 σου. Ὡς περ ἐνώπιον αὐτῶν ἡγιασθῆς ἐν ἡμῖν, οὕτως ἐνώπιον
 5 ἡμῶν μεγαλυνθείης ἐν αὐτοῖς. Καὶ ἐπιγνώτωσάν σε καθάπερ
 καὶ ἡμεῖς ἐπέγνωμεν, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι Θεὸς πλὴν σου Κύριε.
- 6 Ἐγκαίνισον σημεῖα, καὶ ἀλλοιώσον θαυμάσια· δόξασον
 7 χεῖρα καὶ βραχίονα δεξιόν· ἔγειρον θυμὸν, καὶ ἔκχεον ὀργήν·
 8 ἔξαρῃ ἀντίδικον, καὶ ἔκτριψον ἐχθρόν. Σπεῦσον καιρὸν,
 καὶ μνήσθητι ὀρκισμοῦ, καὶ ἐκδιηγησάσθωσαν τὰ μεγαλεῖά
 9 σου. Ἐν ὀργῇ πυρὸς καταβρωθήτω ὁ σωζόμενος, καὶ οἱ
 10 κακοῦντες τὸν λαόν σου εὗροισαν ἀπώλειαν. Σύντριψον
 κεφαλὰς ἀρχόντων ἐχθρῶν λεγόντων, οὐκ ἔστι πλὴν ἡμῶν.
 11 Σύναγε πάσας φυλὰς Ἰακώβ.
- 13 Λαμπρὰ καρδία καὶ ἀγαθὴ ἐπὶ ἐδέσμασιν τῶν βρωμάτων
 αὐτῆς ἐπιμελήσεται.
- 34 Ἀγρυπνία πλούτου ἐκτὴν σάρκα, καὶ ἡ μέριμνα αὐτοῦ
 2 ἀφιστᾷ ὕπνον. Μέριμνα ἀγρυπνίας ἀπαιτήσιν νυσταγμὸν,
 3 καὶ ἀρρώστημα βαρὺ ἐκνήψει ὕπνος. Ἐκοπίασε πλούσιος
 ἐν συναγωγῇ χρημάτων, καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀναπαύσει ἐμπίπλῃται
 4 τῶν τρυφημάτων αὐτοῦ· ἐκοπίασε πτωχὸς ἐν ἐλαττώσει βίου,
 καὶ ἐν τῇ ἀναπαύσει ἐπιδεῖξ γίνεται.
- 5 Ὁ ἀγαπῶν χρυσίον οὐ δικαιοθήσεται, καὶ ὁ διώκων
 6 διαφθοράν, αὐτὸς πλησθήσεται. Πολλοὶ ἐδόθησαν εἰς
 πτῶμα χάριν χρυσίου, καὶ ἐγενήθη ἀπώλεια αὐτῶν κατὰ
 7 πρόσωπον αὐτῶν. Ξύλον προσκόμματός ἐστι τοῖς ἐνθυσιάζουσιν
 8 αὐτῷ, καὶ πᾶς ἄφρων ἀλώσεται ἐν αὐτῷ. Μακάριος
 πλούσιος ὃς εὗρήθῃ ἄμωμος, καὶ ὃς ὀπίσω χρυσίου οὐκ
 9 ἐπορεύθῃ. Τίς ἐστι καὶ μακαριοῦμεν αὐτόν; ἐποίησε γὰρ
 10 θαυμάσια ἐν λαῷ αὐτοῦ. Τίς ἐδοκιμάσθη ἐν αὐτῷ καὶ
 ἐτελειώθη, καὶ ἔστω εἰς καύχησιν; τίς ἐδύνατο παραβῆναι,
 11 καὶ οὐ παρέβη, καὶ ποιῆσαι κακὰ, καὶ οὐκ ἐποίησε; Στε-
 ρεωθήσεται τὰ ἀγαθὰ αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὰς ἐλεημοσύνας αὐτοῦ
 ἐκδιηγῆσεται ἐκκλησία.
- 12 Ἐπὶ τραπέζης μεγάλης ἐκάθισας; μὴ ἀνοιξῆς ἐπ' αὐτῆς
 φάρυγγά σου· καὶ μὴ εἴπῃς, πολλὰ γε τὰ ἐπ' αὐτῆς.
- 13 Μνήσθητι ὅτι κακὸν ὀφθαλμὸς πονηρὸς, πονηρότερον
 ὀφθαλμοῦ τί ἐκτίσται; διὰ τοῦτο ἀπὸ παντὸς προσώπου
 14 δακρύει. Οὐ ἂν ἐπιβλέψῃ, μὴ ἐκτείνῃς χεῖρα, καὶ μὴ
 15 συνθλίβῃς αὐτῷ ἐν τρυβλίῳ. Νόει τὰ τοῦ πλησίον ἐκ
 16 σεαυτοῦ, καὶ ἐπὶ παντὶ πράγματι διανοοῦ. Φάγε ὡς ἄνθρω-
 πος τὰ παρακείμενά σοι, καὶ μὴ διαμασῶ, μὴ μισηθῇς.
- 17 Παῦσαι πρῶτος χάριν παιδείας, καὶ μὴ ἀπληστεύου, μήποτε
 18 προσκόψῃς. Καὶ εἰ ἀναμέσον πλειόνων ἐκάθισας, πρότερος
 19 αὐτῶν μὴ ἐκτείνῃς τὴν χεῖρά σου. Ὡς ἱκανὸν ἄνθρωπον
 πεπαιδευμένον τὸ ὀλίγον, καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς κοίτης αὐτοῦ οὐκ
 20 ἀσθμαίνει. Ὑπνος ὑγείας ἐπὶ ἐντέρω μετρίῳ, ἀνέστη πρωΐ,
 καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ αὐτοῦ μετ' αὐτοῦ· πόνος ἀγρυπνίας καὶ χολέρας
 21 καὶ στρόφος μετὰ ἀνδρὸς ἀπλήστου. Καὶ εἰ ἐβιάσθης ἐν
 ἐδέσμασιν, ἀνάστα μεσοπυρῶν καὶ ἀναπαύσῃ.
- 22 Ἀκουσόν μου τέκνον καὶ μὴ ἐξουδενώσῃς με, καὶ ἐπ'
 ἐσχάτῳ εὐρήσεις τοὺς λόγους μου· ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς ἔργοις σου

Have mercy upon us, O Lord God of all, and behold us: ² and send thy fear upon all the nations that seek not after thee. ³ Lift up thy hand against the strange nations, and let them see thy power. ⁴ As thou wast sanctified in us before them: so be thou magnified among them before us. ⁵ And let them know thee, as we have known thee, that there is no God but only thou, O God.

⁶ Shew new signs, and make other strange wonders: glorify thy hand and thy right arm, that they may set forth thy wondrous works. ⁷ Raise up indignation, and pour out wrath: take away the adversary, and destroy the enemy. ⁸ Make the time short, remember the covenant, and let them declare thy wonderful works. ⁹ Let him that escapeth be consumed by the rage of the fire; and let them perish that oppress the people. ¹⁰ Smite in sunder the heads of the rulers of the heathen, that say, There is none other but we. ¹¹ Gather all the tribes of Jacob together.

¹³ A cheerful and good heart will have a care of his meat and diet.

Watching for riches consumeth the flesh, and the care thereof driveth away sleep. ² Watching care will not let a man slumber, as a sore disease breaketh sleep. ³ The rich hath great labour in gathering riches together; and when he resteth, he is filled with his delicacies. ⁴ The poor laboureth in his poor estate; and when he leaveth off, he is still needy.

⁵ He that loveth gold shall not be justified, and he that followeth corruption shall have enough thereof. ⁶ Gold hath been the ruin of many, and their destruction was present. ⁷ It is a stumblingblock unto them that sacrifice unto it, and every fool shall be taken therewith. ⁸ Blessed is the rich that is found without blemish, and hath not gone after gold. ⁹ Who is he? and we will call him blessed: for wonderful things hath he done among his people. ¹⁰ Who hath been tried thereby, and found perfect? then let him glory. Who might offend, and hath not offended? or done evil, and hath not done it? ¹¹ His goods shall be established, and the congregation shall declare his alms.

¹² If thou sit at a bountiful table, be not greedy upon it, and say not, There is much meat on it. ¹³ Remember that a wicked eye is an evil thing: and what is created more wicked than an eye? therefore it weepeth upon every occasion. ¹⁴ Stretch not thine hand whithersoever it looketh, and thrust it not with him into the dish. ¹⁵ Judge of thy neighbour by thyself: and be discreet in every point. ¹⁶ Eat, as it becometh a man, those things which are set before thee; and devour not, lest thou be hated. ¹⁷ Leave off first for manners' sake; and be not unsatiable, lest thou offend. ¹⁸ When thou sittest among many, reach not thine hand out first of all. ¹⁹ A very little is sufficient for a man well nurtured, and he fetcheth not his wind short upon his bed. ²⁰ Sound sleep cometh of moderate eating: he riseth early, and his wits are with him: but the pain of watching, and choler, and pangs of the belly, are with an unsatiable man. ²¹ And if thou hast been forced to eat, arise, go forth, vomit, and thou shalt have rest.

²² My son, hear me, and despise me not, and at the last thou shalt find as I told thee: in all thy works be quick, so shall there no sickness

come unto thee. ²³ Whoso is liberal of his meat, men shall speak well of him; and the report of his good housekeeping will be believed. ²⁴ But against him that is a niggard of his meat the whole city shall murmur; and the testimonies of his niggardness shall not be doubted of.

²⁵ Shew not thy valiantness in wine; for wine hath destroyed many. ²⁶ The furnace proveth the edge by dipping: so doth wine the hearts of the proud by drunkenness. ²⁷ Wine is as good as life to a man, if it be drunk moderately: what life is then to a man that is without wine? for it was made to make men glad. ²⁸ Wine measurably drunk and in season bringeth gladness of the heart, and cheerfulness of the mind: ²⁹ but wine drunken with excess maketh bitterness of the mind, with brawling and quarrelling. ³⁰ Drunkenness increaseth the rage of a fool till he offend: it diminisheth strength, and maketh wounds. ³¹ Rebuke not thy neighbour at the wine, and despise him not in his mirth: give him no despicable words, and press not upon him with urging him [to drink].

If thou be made the master [of a feast], lift not thyself up, but be among them as one of the rest; take diligent care for them, and so sit down. ² And when thou hast done all thy office, take thy place, that thou mayest be merry with them, and receive a crown for thy well ordering of the feast. ³ Speak, thou that art the elder, for it becometh thee, but with sound judgment; and hinder not music. ⁴ Pour not out words where there is a musician, and shew not forth wisdom out of time. ⁵ A concert of music in a banquet of wine is as a signet of carbuncle set in gold. ⁶ As a signet of an emerald set in a work of gold, so is the melody of music with pleasant wine.

⁷ Speak, young man, if there be need of thee: and yet scarcely when thou art twice asked. ⁸ Let thy speech be short, comprehending much in few words; be as one that knoweth and yet holdeth his tongue. ⁹ If thou be among great men, make not thyself equal with them; and when ancient men are in place, use not many words. ¹⁰ Before the thunder goeth lightning; and before a shamefaced man shall go favour. ¹¹ Rise up betimes, and be not the last; but get thee home without delay. ¹² There take thy pastime, and do what thou wilt: but sin not by proud speech. ¹³ And for these things bless him that made thee, and hath replenished thee with his good things.

¹⁴ Whoso feareth the Lord will receive his discipline; and they that seek him early shall find favour. ¹⁵ He that seeketh the law shall be filled therewith: but the hypocrite will be offended thereat. ¹⁶ They that fear the Lord shall find judgment, and shall kindle justice as a light. ¹⁷ A sinful man will not be reprov'd, but findeth an excuse according to his will. ¹⁸ A man of counsel will be considerate; but a strange and proud man is not daunted with fear, even when of himself he hath done without counsel. ¹⁹ Do nothing without advice; and when thou hast once done, repent not.

²⁰ Go not in a way wherein thou mayest fall, and stumble not among the stones. ²¹ Be not confident in a plain way. ²² And beware of thine own children. ²³ In every good work trust thy own soul; for this is the keeping of the commandments. ²⁴ He that believeth in the Lord

γίνου ἐντρεχῆς, καὶ πᾶν ἀρρώστημα οὐ μὴ σοι ἀπαντήσῃ. Δαμπρὸν ἐπ' ἄρτοις εὐλογήσῃ χειλῇ, καὶ μαρτυρία τῆς 23 καλλονῆς αὐτοῦ πιστή. Πονηρῷ ἐπ' ἄρτῳ διαγογγύσει 24 πόλις, καὶ ἡ μαρτυρία τῆς πονηρίας αὐτοῦ ἐκριβῆς.

Ἐν οἴνῳ μὴ ἀνδρίζου, πολλοὺς γὰρ ἀπώλεσεν ὁ οἶνος. 25 Κάμινος δοκιμάζει στόμωμα ἐν βαφῇ, οὕτως οἶνος καρδίας 26 ἐν μάχῃ ὑπερηφάνων. Ἐπίσον ζωῆς οἶνος ἀνθρώπῳ, ἐὰν 27 πίνῃς αὐτὸν μέτρῳ αὐτοῦ· τίς ζωὴ ἐλασσομένῳ οἴνῳ; καὶ αὐτὸς ἐκτισται εἰς εὐφροσύνην ἀνθρώποις. Ἀγαλλίαμα 28 καρδίας καὶ εὐφροσύνη ψυχῆς οἶνος πινόμενος ἐν καιρῷ αὐτάρκης· πικρία ψυχῆς οἶνος πινόμενος πολλὴ, ἐν ὀρεθισμῷ 29 καὶ ἀντιπτώματι. Πληθύνει μέθη θυμὸν ἄφρονος εἰς πρόσ- 30 κομμα, ἐλαττῶν ἰσχὺν καὶ προσποιῶν τραύματα. Ἐν συμ- 31 ποσίῳ οἴνου μὴ ἐλέγξῃς τὸν πλησίον, καὶ μὴ ἐξουδενώσῃς αὐτὸν ἐν εὐφροσύνῃ αὐτοῦ· λόγον ὀνειδισμοῦ μὴ εἴπῃς αὐτῷ, καὶ μὴ αὐτὸν θλίψῃς ἐν ἀπαιτήσῃ.

ΠΕΡΙ ἙΓΟΥΜΕΝΩΝ.

Ἑγούμενων σε κατέστησαν; μὴ ἐπαίρου, γίνου ἐν αὐτοῖς 35 ὡς εἰς ἐξ αὐτῶν· φρόντισον αὐτῶν, καὶ οὕτω κάθισον, καὶ 2 πᾶσαν τὴν χρεῖαν σου ποιήσας ἀνάπεσε, ἵνα εὐφρανθῇς δι' αὐτοὺς, καὶ εὐκοσμίας χάριν λάβῃς στέφανον. Δάλησον 3 πρεσβύτερε, πρέπει γὰρ σοι, ἐν ἀκριβεῖ ἐπιστήμῃ, καὶ μὴ ἐμποδίσῃς μουσικά. Ὅπου ἀκρόαμα, μὴ ἐκχέῃς λαλίαν, 4 καὶ ἀκαίρως μὴ σοφίζου. Σφραγίς ἀνθρακος ἐπὶ κόσμῳ 5 χρυσῷ, σύγκριμα μουσικῶν ἐν συμποσίῳ οἴνου. Ἐν κατα- 6 σκευάσματι χρυσῷ σφραγίς σμαράγδου μέλος μουσικῶν ἐφ' ἡδεῖ οἴνῳ.

Δάλησον νεανίσκε εἰ χρεῖα σου, μόλις δις ἐὰν ἐπερωτηθῇς. 7 Κεφαλαίωσον λόγον, ἐν ὀλίγοις πολλὰ, γίνου ὡς γινώσκων 8 καὶ ἅμα σιωπῶν. Ἐν μέσῳ μεγιστάνων μὴ ἐξισάζου, καὶ 9 ἐτέρου λέγοντος μὴ πολλὰ ἀδολέσχει. Πρὸ βροντῆς κατα- 10 σπεύδει ἀστραπή, καὶ πρὸ αἰσχυνητροῦ προελεύσεται χάρις. Ἐν ὥρᾳ ἐξεγείρου καὶ μὴ οὐράγει, ἀπότρεχε εἰς οἶκον καὶ 11 μὴ ραθύμει. Ἐκεῖ παῖζε καὶ ποίει τὰ ἐνθυμήματά σου, καὶ 12 μὴ ἀμάρτης λόγῳ ὑπερηφάνῳ. Καὶ ἐπὶ τούτοις εὐλόγησον 13 τὸν ποιήσαντά σε, καὶ μεθύσκοντά σε ἀπὸ τῶν ἀγαθῶν αὐτοῦ.

Ὁ φοβούμενος Κύριον ἐκδέξεται παιδείαν, καὶ οἱ ὀρθρί- 14 ζοντες εὐρήσουσιν εὐδοκίαν. Ὁ ζητῶν νόμον ἐμπλησθήσε- 15 ται αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὁ ὑποκρινόμενος σκανδαλισθήσεται ἐν αὐτῷ. Οἱ φοβούμενοι Κύριον εὐρήσουσι κρίμα, καὶ δικαιώματα ὡς 16 φῶς ἐξάψουσιν. Ἀνθρωπος ἀμαρτωλὸς ἐκκλίνει ἐλεγμον, 17 καὶ κατὰ τὸ θέλημα αὐτοῦ εὐρήσει σύγκριμα. Ἀνὴρ βουλή 18 οὐ μὴ παρίδῃ διανόημα, ἀλλότριος καὶ ὑπερήφανος οὐ κατα- πτήξει φόβον, καὶ μετὰ τὸ ποιῆσαι μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνευ βουλῆς. Ἄνευ βουλῆς μὴθὲν ποιήσῃς, καὶ ἐν τῷ ποιῆσαί σε μὴ 19 μεταμελοῦ.

Ἐν ὁδῷ ἀντιπτώματος μὴ πορεύου, καὶ μὴ προσκόψῃς ἐν 20 λιθώδεσι. Μὴ πιστεύσῃς ἐν ὁδῷ ἀπροσκόπῳ, καὶ ἀπὸ 21, 22 τῶν τέκνων σου φύλαξαι. Ἐν παντὶ ἔργῳ πίστευε τῇ 23 ψυχῇ σου, καὶ γὰρ τοῦτό ἐστι τήρησις ἐντολῶν. Ὁ 24

πιστεύων νόμῳ προσέχει ἐντολαῖς, καὶ ὁ πεποιθὼς Κυρίῳ οὐκ ἐλαττωθήσεται.

- 36 Τῷ φοβουμένῳ Κύριον οὐκ ἀπαντήσῃ κακὸν, ἀλλ' ἐν
2 πειρασμῷ καὶ πάλιν ἐξελεῖται. Ἀνὴρ σοφὸς οὐ μισήσῃ
νόμον, ὁ δὲ ὑποκρινόμενος ἐν αὐτῷ, ὡς ἐν καταγίδι πλοῖον.
3 Ἀνθρωπος συνετὸς ἐμπιστεύσει νόμῳ, καὶ ὁ νόμος αὐτῷ
4 πιστὸς ὡς ἐρώτημα δικαίων. Ἐτοίμασον λόγον, καὶ οὕτως
5 ἀκουθήσῃ, σύνδησον παιδείαν καὶ ἀποκρίθητι. Τροχὸς
ἀμάξης σπλάγχνα μωροῦ, καὶ ὡς ἄξων στρεφόμενος ὁ
6 διαλογισμὸς αὐτοῦ. Ἴππος εἰς ὀχείαν ὡς φίλος μῶκος,
ὑποκάτω παντὸς ἐπικαθημένου χρεμετίζει.
7 Διὰ τί ἡμέρα ἡμέρας ὑπερέχει, καὶ πᾶν φῶς ἡμέρας
8 ἐνιαυτοῦ ἀφ' ἡλίου; Ἐν γνώσει Κυρίου διεχωρίσθησαν,
9 καὶ ἡλλοίωσε καιροὺς καὶ ἐορτάς· ἀπ' αὐτῶν ἀνύψωσε καὶ
ἡγίασε, καὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἔθηκεν εἰς ἀριθμὸν ἡμερῶν.
10 Καὶ ἄνθρωποι πάντες ἀπὸ ἐδάφους, καὶ ἐκ γῆς ἐκτίσθη
11 Ἀδάμ. Ἐν πληθείᾳ ἐπιστήμης Κύριος διεχώρισεν αὐτοὺς,
12 καὶ ἡλλοίωσε τὰς ὁδοὺς αὐτῶν. Ἐξ αὐτῶν εὐλόγησε καὶ
ἀνύψωσε, καὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἡγίασε, καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἤγγισεν· ἀπ'
αὐτῶν κατηράσατο, καὶ ἐταπείνωσε, καὶ ἀνέστρεψεν αὐτοὺς
13 ἀπὸ στάσεως αὐτῶν. Ὡς πληλὸς κεραμέως ἐν χειρὶ αὐτοῦ,
πᾶσαι αἱ ὁδοὶ αὐτοῦ κατὰ τὴν εὐδοκίαν αὐτοῦ· οὕτως ἄνθρω-
ποι ἐν χειρὶ τοῦ ποιήσαντος αὐτοὺς, ἀποδοῦναι αὐτοῖς κατὰ
14 τὴν κρίσιν αὐτοῦ. Ἀπέναντι τοῦ κακοῦ τὸ ἀγαθόν, καὶ
ἀπέναντι τοῦ θανάτου ἡ ζωὴ, οὕτως ἀπέναντι εὐσεβοῦς
15 ἀμαρτωλός. Καὶ οὕτως ἐμβλεψὼν εἰς πάντα τὰ ἔργα τοῦ
ὑψίστου, δύο δύο ἐν κατέναντι τοῦ ἐνός.
11 Καὶ γὰρ ἔσχατος ἡγρύνησα, καὶ κατεκληρονόμησα αὐτοὺς
12 καθὼς ἀπ' ἀρχῆς. Ἐλέησον λαὸν, Κύριε, κεκλημένον ἐπ'
13 ὀνόματί σου, καὶ Ἰσραὴλ ὃν πρωτογόνῳ ὁμοίωσας. Οἰκ-
τείρησον πόλιν ἀγιάσματός σου Ἱερουσαλὴμ, πόλιν κατα-
14 παύματός σου. Πλήσον Σιών ἄραι τὰ λόγια σου, καὶ ἀπὸ
15 τῆς δόξης σου τὸν λαόν σου. Δὸς μαρτύριον τοῖς ἐν ἀρχῇ
κτίσμασί σου, καὶ ἔγειρον προφητείας τὰς ἐπ' ὀνόματί σου·
16 δὸς μισθὸν τοῖς ὑπομένουσί σε, καὶ οἱ προφῆταί σου ἐμπι-
στευθήτωσαν.
17 Εἰσάκουσον, Κύριε, δεήσεως τῶν ἱκετῶν σου, κατὰ τὴν
εὐλογίαν Ἀαρὼν περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ σου, καὶ γνώσκονται πάντες
18 οἱ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ὅτι σὺ Κύριος εἶ ὁ Θεὸς τῶν αἰώνων. Πᾶν
βρῶμα φάγεται κοιλία, ἔστι δὲ βρῶμα βρώματος κάλλιον.
19 Φάρυγξ γεύεται βρώματα θήρας, οὕτως καρδιά συνετὴ
20 λόγους ψευδεῖς. Καρδιά στρεβλὴ δώσει λύπην, καὶ ἄν-
θρωπος πολυπείρος ἀνταποδώσει αὐτῷ.
21 Πάντα ἄρρενα ἐπιδέξεται γυνή, ἔστι δὲ θυγάτηρ θυγατρὸς
22 κρείσσω. Κάλλος γυναικὸς ἱλαρύνει πρόσωπον, καὶ ὑπὲρ
23 πᾶσαν ἐπιθυμίαν ἀνθρώπου ὑπεράγει. Εἰ ἔστιν ἐπὶ γλῶσ-
σης αὐτῆς ἔλεος καὶ πραύτης, οὐκ ἔστιν ὁ ἀνὴρ αὐτῆς καθ'
υἱὸς ἀνθρώπων.
24 Ὁ κτώμενος γυναῖκα ἐνάρχεται κτήσεως, βοηθὸν κατ'
25 αὐτὸν καὶ στύλον ἀναπαύσεων. Οὐ οὐκ ἔστι φραγμὸς,
διαρπαγῆσεται κτήμα, καὶ οὐ οὐκ ἔστι γυνή, στενάξει
26 πλανώμενος. Τίς γὰρ πιστεύσει εὐζώνῳ ληστῇ σφαλλομένῳ

taketh heed to the commandment; and he that trusteth in him shall fare never the worse.

There shall no evil happen unto him that feareth the Lord; but in temptation even again he will deliver him. ² A wise man hateth not the law; but he that is an hypocrite therein is as a ship in a storm. ³ A man of understanding trusteth in the law; and the law is faithful unto him, as an oracle. ⁴ Prepare what to say, and so thou shalt be heard: and bind up instruction, and then make answer. ⁵ The heart of the foolish is like a cart-wheel; and his thoughts are like a rolling axle-tree. ⁶ A stallion horse is as a mocking friend, he neigheth under every one that sitteth upon him.

⁷ Why doth one day excel another, when as all the light of every day in the year is of the sun? ⁸ By the knowledge of the Lord they were distinguished: and he altered seasons and feasts. ⁹ Some of them hath he made high days, and hallowed them, and some of them hath he made ordinary days.

¹⁰ And all men are from the ground, and Adam was created of earth. ¹¹ In much knowledge the Lord hath divided them, and made their ways diverse. ¹² Some of them hath he blessed and exalted, and some of them hath he sanctified, and set near himself: but some of them hath he cursed and brought low, and turned out of their places. ¹³ As the clay is in the potter's hand, to fashion it at his pleasure: so man is in the hand of him that made him, to render to them as liketh him best. ¹⁴ Good is set against evil, and life against death: so is the godly against the sinner, and the sinner against the godly. ¹⁵ So look upon all the works of the most High; and there are two and two, one against another.

¹¹ Though I was the last to wake up, yet I received their inheritance as from the beginning. ¹² O Lord have mercy upon the people that is called by thy name, and upon Israel, whom thou hast named thy firstborn. ¹³ O be merciful unto Jerusalem, thy holy city, the place of thy rest. ¹⁴ Fill Sion with thine unspeakable oracles, and thy people with thy glory. ¹⁵ Give testimony unto those that thou hast possessed from the beginning, and raise up prophets that have been in thy name. ¹⁵ Reward them that wait for thee, and let thy prophets be found faithful.

¹⁷ O Lord, hear the prayer of thy servants, according to the blessing of Aaron over thy people, that all they which dwell upon the earth may know that thou art the Lord, the eternal God. ¹⁸ The belly devoureth all meats, yet is one meat better than another. ¹⁹ As the palate tasteth divers kinds of venison: so doth an heart of understanding false speeches. ²⁰ A froward heart causeth heaviness: but a man of experience will recompense him.

²¹ A woman will receive every man, yet is one daughter better than another. ²² The beauty of a woman cheereth the countenance, and a man loveth nothing better. ²³ If there be kindness, meekness, and comfort, in her tongue, then is not her husband like other men.

²⁴ He that getteth a wife beginneth a possession, a help like unto himself, and a pillar of rest. ²⁵ Where no hedge is, there the possession is spoiled: and he that hath no wife will wander up and down mourning. ²⁶ Who will trust a thief well appointed, that skippeth

from city to city? so [who will believe] a man that hath no house, and lodgeth wheresoever the night taketh him?

Every friend saith, I am his friend also: but there is a friend, which is only a friend in name. ² Is it not a grief unto death, when a companion and friend is turned to an enemy? ³ O wicked imagination, whence camest thou in to cover the earth with deceit? ⁴ There is a companion, which rejoiceth in the prosperity of a friend, but in the time of trouble will be against him. ⁵ There is a companion, which helpeth his friend for the belly, and taketh up the buckler against the enemy. ⁶ Forget not thy friend in thy mind, and be not unmindful of him in thy riches.

⁷ Every counsellor extollet counsel; but there is some that counsellet for himself. ⁸ Beware of a counsellor, and know before what need he hath; for he will counsel for himself; lest he cast the lot upon thee, ⁹ and say unto thee, Thy way is good: and afterward he stand on the other side, to see what shall befall thee. ¹⁰ Consult not with one that suspecteth thee: and hide thy counsel from such as envy thee. ¹¹ Neither consult with a woman touching her of whom she is jealous; neither with a coward in matters of war; nor with a merchant concerning exchange; nor with a buyer of selling; nor with an envious man of thankfulness; nor with an unmerciful man touching kindness; nor with the slothful for any work; nor with an hireling for a year of finishing work; nor with an idle servant of much business: hearken not unto these in any matter of counsel.

¹² But be continually with a godly man, whom thou knowest to keep the commandments of the Lord, whose mind is according to thy mind, and will sorrow with thee, if thou shalt miscarry. ¹³ And let the counsel of thine own heart stand: for there is no man more faithful unto thee than it; ¹⁴ for a man's mind is sometime wont to tell him more than seven watchmen, that sit above in an high tower. ¹⁵ And above all this pray to the most High, that he will direct thy way in truth. ¹⁶ Let reason go before every enterprize, and counsel before every action.

¹⁷ The countenance is a sign of changing of the heart. ¹⁸ Four manners of things appear: good and evil, life and death; but the tongue ruleth over them continually. ¹⁹ There is one that is wise and teacheth many, and yet is unprofitable to himself. ²⁰ There is one that sheweth wisdom in words, and is hated: he shall be destitute of all food. ²¹ For grace is not given him from the Lord; because he is deprived of all wisdom. ²² Another is wise to himself; and the fruits of understanding are commendable in his mouth.

²³ A wise man instructeth his people; and the fruits of his understanding fail not. ²⁴ A wise man shall be filled with blessing; and all they that see him shall count him happy. ²⁵ The days of the life of man may be numbered; but the days of Israel are innumerable. ²⁶ A wise man shall inherit glory among his people, and his name shall be perpetual.

²⁷ My son, prove thy soul in thy life, and see what is evil for it, and give not that unto it. ²⁸ For all things are not profitable for all men, neither hath every soul pleasure in every thing. ²⁹ Be not insatiable in any dainty thing, nor too greedy upon meats: ³⁰ for excess of meats

ἐκ πόλεως εἰς πόλιν; οὕτως ἄνθρωπος μὴ ἔχοντι νοσσιὰν καὶ καταλύοντι οὐ ἂν ὀψισῇ.

Πᾶς φίλος ἐρεῖ, ἐφιλλίασα αὐτῷ κἀγώ· ἀλλ' ἔστι φίλος ³⁷ ὀνόματι μόνον φίλος. Οὐχὶ λύπη ἐνὶ ἔως θανάτου, ἐταῖρος ² καὶ φίλος τρεπόμενος εἰς ἐχθραν; Ὡς πονηρὸν ἐνθύμημα, ³ πόθεν ἐνεκυλίσθης καλύψαι τὴν ξηρὰν ἐν δολιότητι; Ἐταῖ- ⁴ ρος φίλου ἐν εὐφροσύνῃ ἡδεται, καὶ ἐν καιρῷ θλίψεως ἔσται ἀπέναντι. Ἐταῖρος φίλῳ συμπονεῖ χάριν γαστρὸς, ἐναντι ⁵ πολέμου λήσεται ἀσπίδα. Μὴ ἐπιλάβῃ φίλου ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ ⁶ σου, καὶ μὴ ἀμνημονήσῃς αὐτοῦ ἐν χρήμασί σου.

Πᾶς σύμβουλος ἐξαίρει βουλήν, ἀλλ' ἔστι συμβουλευέων ⁷ εἰς ἑαυτόν. Ἀπὸ συμβούλου φύλαξον τὴν ψυχὴν σου, καὶ ⁸ γνῶθι πρότερον τίς αὐτοῦ χρεία· καὶ γὰρ αὐτὸς ἑαυτῷ βουλευέσεται· μήποτε βάλῃ ἐπὶ σοὶ κλῆρον, καὶ εἶπῃ σοι, ⁹ καλὴ ἡ ὁδός σου· καὶ στησεται ἐξ ἐναντίας ἰδεῖν τὸ συμβη- ¹⁰ σόμενόν σοι. Μὴ βουλευέου μετὰ τοῦ ὑποβλεπομένου σε, ¹¹ καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν ζηλούντων σε κρύψον βουλήν. Μετὰ γυναῖκος ¹² περὶ ἀντιζήλου αὐτῆς, καὶ μετὰ δειλοῦ περὶ πολέμου· μετὰ ἐμπορίου περὶ μεταβολίας, καὶ μετὰ ἀγοράζοντος περὶ ¹³ πράσεως· μετὰ βασκάνου περὶ εὐχαριστίας, καὶ μετὰ ἀνε- ¹⁴ λεήμονος περὶ χρηστοθεΐας· μετὰ ὀκνηροῦ περὶ παντὸς ἔργου, καὶ μετὰ μισθίου ἐφεστίου περὶ συντελείας, οἰκέτῃ ¹⁵ ἀργῶ περὶ πολλῆς ἐργασίας· μὴ ἔπεχε ἐπὶ τούτοις περὶ ¹⁶ πάσης συμβουλίας.

Ἄλλ' ἢ μετὰ ἀνδρὸς εὐσεβοῦς ἐνδελέχιζε, ὃν ἂν ἐπιγνῶς ¹² συντηροῦντα ἐντολάς· ὃς ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ αὐτοῦ κατὰ τὴν ψυχὴν ¹³ σου, καὶ ἂν πταίσῃς, συναλγήσει σοι. Καὶ βουλήν ¹⁴ καρδίας στήσον, οὐ γὰρ ἐστὶ σοι πιστότερος αὐτῆς· ψυχὴ ¹⁵ γὰρ ἀνδρὸς ἀπαγγέλλειν ἐνίοτε εἴωθεν, ἢ ἐπὶ σκοποῖ ἐπὶ ¹⁶ μετεώρου καθήμενοι ἐπὶ σκοπῆς. Καὶ ἐπὶ πᾶσι τούτοις ¹⁷ δεθήτη ὑψίστου, ἵνα εὐθύνῃ ἐν ἀληθείᾳ τὴν ὁδόν σου. Ἀρχὴ ¹⁸ παντὸς ἔργου λόγος, καὶ πρὸ πάσης πράξεως ¹⁹ βουλή.

Ἰχνος ἀλλοιώσεως καρδίας. Τέσσαρα μέρη ἀνατέλλει, ¹⁷ ¹⁸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ κακὸν, ζωὴ καὶ θάνατος, καὶ κυριεύουσα ἐνδε- ¹⁹ λεχῶς αὐτῶν γλῶσσά ἐστιν. Ἔστιν ἀνὴρ πανοῦργος καὶ ²⁰ πολλῶν παιδευτῆς, καὶ τῇ ἰδίᾳ ψυχῇ ἄχρηστός ἐστιν. Ἔστι ²¹ σοφίζόμενος ἐν λόγοις μισητὸς, οὗτος πάσης τροφῆς καθ- ²² υστερήσει, οὐ γὰρ ἐδόθη αὐτῷ παρὰ Κυρίου χάρις, ὅτι πάσης ²³ σοφίας ἐστερήθη. Ἔστι σοφὸς τῇ ἰδίᾳ ψυχῇ, καὶ οἱ ²⁴ καρποὶ τῆς συνέσεως αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ στόματος πιστοί.

Ἀνὴρ σοφὸς τὸν ἑαυτοῦ λαὸν παιδεύσει, καὶ οἱ καρποὶ ²³ τῆς συνέσεως αὐτοῦ πιστοί. Ἀνὴρ σοφὸς πλησθήσεται ²⁴ εὐλογίας, καὶ μακαριοῦσιν αὐτὸν πάντες οἱ ὁρῶντες. Ζωὴ ²⁵ ἀνδρὸς ἐν ἀριθμῷ ἡμερῶν, καὶ αἱ ἡμέραι τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ἀνα- ²⁶ ρίθμητοι. Ὁ σοφὸς ἐν τῷ λαῷ αὐτοῦ κληρονομήσει πίστιν, ²⁷ καὶ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ ζήσεται εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

Τέκνον, ἐν τῇ ζωῇ σου πείρασον τὴν ψυχὴν σου, καὶ ἴδε ²⁷ τί πονηρὸν αὐτῇ, καὶ μὴ δῶς αὐτῇ. Οὐ γὰρ πάντα πᾶσι ²⁸ συμφέρει, καὶ οὐ πᾶσα ψυχὴ ἐν παντὶ εὐδοκεῖ. Μὴ ἀπλη- ²⁹ στείου ἐν πάσῃ τρυφῇ, καὶ μὴ ἐκχυθῇς ἐπὶ ἐδεσμάτων· ³⁰ ἐν πολλοῖς γὰρ βρώμασιν ἔσται πόνος, καὶ ἡ ἀπληστία

- 31 ἐγγιεῖ ἕως χολέρας. Δι' ἀπληστίαν πολλοὶ ἐτελεύτησαν, ὁ δὲ προσέχων προσθήσει ζωὴν.
- 38 Τίμα ἱατρὸν πρὸς τὰς χρείας τιμαῖς αὐτοῦ, καὶ γὰρ αὐτὸν ἔκτισε Κύριος. Παρὰ γὰρ ὑψίστου ἐστὶν ἱασις, καὶ παρὰ βασιλέως λήψεται δόμα. Ἐπιστήμη ἱατροῦ ἀνυψώσει κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔναντι μεγιστάνων θαυμασθήσεται.
- 4 Κύριος ἔκτισεν ἐκ γῆς φάρμακα, καὶ ἀνὴρ φρόνιμος οὐ προσοχίει αὐτοῖς. Οὐκ ἀπὸ ξύλου ἐγλυκάνθη ὕδωρ, εἰς τὸ γνωσθῆναι τὴν ἰσχὺν αὐτοῦ; Καὶ αὐτὸς ἔδωκεν ἀνθρώποις ἐπιστήμην ἐνδοξάζεσθαι ἐν τοῖς θαυμασίοις αὐτοῦ. Ἐν αὐτοῖς ἐθεράπευσε, καὶ ἤρε τὸν πόνον αὐτοῦ. Μυρεφὸς ἐν τούτοις ποιήσει μίγμα, καὶ οὐ μὴ συντελέσῃ ἔργα αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἰρήνη παρ' αὐτοῦ ἐστὶν ἐπὶ προσώπου τῆς γῆς.
- 9 Τέκνον, ἐν ἀρρώσθηματί σου μὴ παράβλεπε, ἀλλ' εὗξαι Κυρίῳ, καὶ αὐτὸς ἰάσεται σε. Ἀπόστησον πλημμέλειαν, καὶ εὐθυνον χεῖρας, καὶ ἀπὸ πάσης ἁμαρτίας καθάρισον καρδίαν. Δὸς εὐωδίαν, καὶ μνημόσυνον σεμιδάλεως, καὶ λίπανον προσφορὰν, ὡς μὴ ὑπάρχων. Καὶ ἱατρῷ δὸς τόπον, καὶ γὰρ αὐτὸν ἔκτισε Κύριος· καὶ μὴ ἀποστήτω σου, καὶ γὰρ αὐτοῦ χρεία. Ἔστι καιρὸς ὅτε καὶ ἐν χερσὶν αὐτῶν εὐωδία. Καὶ γὰρ αὐτοὶ Κυρίου δεηθήσονται, ἵνα εὐοδώσῃ αὐτοῖς ἀνάπασιν καὶ ἱασιν χάριν ἐμβιώσεως. Ὁ ἁμαρτάνων ἔναντι τοῦ ποιήσαντος αὐτὸν, ἐμπέσοι εἰς χεῖρας ἱατροῦ.
- 16 Τέκνον, ἐπὶ νεκρῷ κατάγαγε δάκρυα, καὶ ὡς δεινὰ πάσχων ἔναρξε θρήνον· κατὰ δὲ τὴν κρίσιν αὐτοῦ περιστείλον τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ, καὶ μὴ ὑπερίδῃς τὴν ταφὴν αὐτοῦ. Πίκρανον κλαυθμὸν, καὶ θέρμανον κοπετόν, καὶ ποίησον τὸ πένθος κατὰ τὴν ἀξίαν αὐτοῦ ἡμέραν μίαν καὶ δύο χάριν διαβολῆς, καὶ παρακλήθητι λύπης ἕνεκα· ἀπὸ λύπης γὰρ ἐκβαίνει θάνατος, καὶ λύπη καρδίας κάμψει ἰσχύν. Ἐν ἀπαγωγῇ παραβαίνει καὶ λύπη, καὶ βίος πτωχοῦ κατὰ καρδίας. Μὴ δῶς εἰς λύπην τὴν καρδίαν σου, ἀπόστησον αὐτὴν μνησθεὶς τὰ ἔσχατα. Μὴ ἐπιλαθῇ, οὐ γάρ ἐστιν ἐπάνοδος, καὶ τοῦτον οὐκ ὠφελήσεις, καὶ σεαυτὸν κακώσεις. Μνησθητι τὸ κρίμα αὐτοῦ, ὅτι οὕτω ὡς καὶ τὸ σόν· ἐμοὶ χθές, καὶ σοὶ σήμερον. Ἐν ἀναπαύσει νεκροῦ κατάπασσον τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτοῦ, καὶ παρακλήθητι ἐν αὐτῷ ἐν ἐξόδῳ πνεύματος αὐτοῦ.
- 24 Σοφία γραμματέως ἐν εὐκαιρίᾳ σχολῆς, καὶ ὁ ἐλασσοῦ-μενος πράξει αὐτοῦ σοφισθήσεται. Τί σοφισθήσεται ὁ κρατῶν ἀροτροῦ, καὶ καυχώμενος ἐν δόρατι κέντρου, βόας ἐλαύνων καὶ ἀναστρεφόμενος ἐν ἔργοις αὐτῶν, καὶ ἡ διήγησις αὐτοῦ ἐν υἱοῖς ταυρῶν; Καρδίαν αὐτοῦ δώσει ἐκδοῦναι αὐλακας, καὶ ἡ ἀγρυπνία αὐτοῦ εἰς χορτάσματα δαμάλεων.
- 27 Οὕτως πᾶς τέκτων καὶ ἀρχιτέκτων, ὅστις νύκτωρ ὡς ἡμέρα διάγει· οἱ γλύφοντες γλύμματα σφραγίδων, καὶ ἡ ὑπομονὴ αὐτοῦ ἀλλοιῶσαι ποικιλίαν· καρδίαν αὐτοῦ δώσει εἰς τὸ ὁμοιωῶσαι ζωγραφίαν, καὶ ἡ ἀγρυπνία αὐτοῦ τελέσαι ἔργον.
- 28 Οὕτως χαλκεὺς καθήμενος ἐγγὺς ἄκμονος, καὶ καταμανθάνων ἀργῷ σιδήρῳ· ἀτμὶς πυρὸς πῆξει σάρκα αὐτοῦ, καὶ

bringeth sickness, and surfeiting will turn into cholera. ³¹ By surfeiting have many perished; but he that taketh heed prolongeth his life.

Honour a physician with the honour due unto him for the uses which ye may have of him: for the Lord hath created him. ² For of the most High cometh healing, and he shall receive honour of the king. ³ The skill of the physician shall lift up his head: and in the sight of great men he shall be in admiration. ⁴ The Lord hath created medicines out of the earth; and he that is wise will not abhor them. ⁵ Was not the water made sweet with wood, that the virtue thereof might be known? ⁶ And he hath given men skill, that he might be honoured in his marvellous works. ⁷ With such doth he heal [men,] and taketh away their pains. ⁸ Of such doth the apothecary make a confection; and of his works there is no end; and from him is peace over all the earth.

⁹ My son, in thy sickness be not negligent: but pray unto the Lord, and he will make thee whole. ¹⁰ Leave off from sin, and order thine hands aright, and cleanse thy heart from all wickedness. ¹¹ Give a sweet savour, and a memorial of fine flour; and make a fat offering, as not being. ¹² Then give place to the physician, for the Lord hath created him: let him not go from thee, for thou hast need of him. ¹³ There is a time when in their hands there is good success. ¹⁴ For they shall also pray unto the Lord, that he would prosper that which they give for ease and remedy to prolong life. ¹⁵ He that sinneth before his Maker, let him fall into the hand of the physician.

¹⁶ My son, let tears fall down over the dead, and begin to lament, as if thou hadst suffered great harm thyself; and then cover his body according to the custom, and neglect not his burial. ¹⁷ Weep bitterly, and make great moan, and use lamentation, as he is worthy, and that a day or two, lest thou be evil spoken of; and then comfort thyself for thy heaviness; ¹⁸ for of heaviness cometh death, and the heaviness of the heart breaketh strength. ¹⁹ In affliction also sorrow remaineth: and the life of the poor is the curse of the heart. ²⁰ Take no heaviness to heart: drive it away, and remember the last end. ²¹ Forget him not, for there is no turning again: thou shalt not do him good, but hurt thyself. ²² Remember his judgment: for thine also shall be so; yesterday for me, and to day for thee. ²³ When the dead is at rest, let his remembrance rest; and be comforted for him when his spirit is departed from him.

²⁴ The wisdom of a learned man cometh by opportunity of leisure: and he that hath little business shall become wise. ²⁵ How can he get wisdom that holdeth the plough, and that glorieth in the goad, that driveth oxen, and is occupied in their labours, and whose talk is of bullocks? ²⁶ He giveth his mind to make furrows; and is diligent to give the kine fodder. ²⁷ So every carpenter and workmaster, that laboureth night and day: and they that cut and grave seals, and are diligent to make great variety, and give themselves to counterfeit imagery, and watch to finish a work:

²⁸ The smith also sitting by the anvil, and considering the iron work, the vapour of the fire

wasteth his flesh, and he fighteth with the heat of the furnace: the noise of the hammer and the anvil is ever in his ears, and his eyes look still upon the pattern of the thing that he maketh; he setteth his mind to finish his work, and watcheth to polish it perfectly:

²⁹ So doth the potter sitting at his work, and turning the wheel about with his feet, who is alway carefully set at his work, and maketh all his work by number; ³⁰ he fashioneth the clay with his arm, and boweth down his strength before his feet; he applieth himself to lead it over; and he is diligent to make clean the furnace: ³¹ all these trust to their hands; and every one is wise in his work. ³² Without these cannot a city be inhabited: and they shall not dwell where they will, nor go up and down: ³³ they shall not be sought for in public counsel, nor sit high in the congregation: they shall not sit on the judges' seat, nor understand the sentence of judgment: they cannot declare justice and judgment; and they shall not be found where parables are spoken. ³⁴ But they will maintain the state of the world, and [all] their desire is in the work of their craft.

But he that giveth his mind to the law of the most High, and is occupied in the meditation thereof, will seek out the wisdom of all the ancients, and be occupied in prophecies. ² He will keep the sayings of the renowned men: and where subtil parables are, he will be there also. ³ He will seek out the secrets of grave sentences, and be conversant in dark parables. ⁴ He shall serve among great men, and appear before princes: he will travel through strange countries; for he hath tried the good and the evil among men. ⁵ He will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him, and will pray before the most High, and will open his mouth in prayer, and make supplication for his sins.

⁶ When the great Lord will, he shall be filled with the spirit of understanding: he shall pour out wise sentences, and give thanks unto the Lord in his prayer. ⁷ He shall direct his counsel and knowledge, and on his secrets shall he meditate. ⁸ He shall shew forth that which he hath learned, and shall glory in the law of the covenant of the Lord. ⁹ Many shall commend his understanding; and so long as the world endureth, it shall not be blotted out; his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation. ¹⁰ Nations shall shew forth his wisdom, and the congregation shall declare his praise. ¹¹ If he die, he shall leave a greater name than a thousand; and if he live, he shall increase it. ¹² Yet have I more to say, which I have thought upon; for I am filled as the moon at the full.

¹³ Harken unto me, ye holy children, and bud forth as a rose growing by the brook of the field: ¹⁴ and give ye a sweet savour as frankincense, and flourish as a lily, send forth a smell, and sing a song of praise, bless the Lord in all his works. ¹⁵ Magnify his name, and shew forth his praise with the songs of your lips, and with harps, and in praising him ye shall say after this manner: ¹⁶ All the works of the Lord are exceeding good, and whatsoever he commandeth shall be accomplished in due season. ¹⁷ For at time convenient they shall all be sought out: at his commandment the waters stood as an heap, and at the words of his mouth, the receptacles

ἐν θερμῇ καμίνου διαμαχήσεται· φωνὴ σφύρης καινιεῖ τὸ οὖς αὐτοῦ, καὶ κατέναντι ὁμοιώματος σκεύους οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ αὐτοῦ· καρδίαν αὐτοῦ δώσει εἰς συντέλειαν ἔργων, καὶ ἡ ἀγρυπνία αὐτοῦ κοσμήσεται ἐπὶ συντελείας.

Οὕτω κεραμεὺς καθήμενος ἐν ἔργῳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ συστρέφων ²⁹ ἐν ποσὶν αὐτοῦ τροχόν, ὃς ἐν μεριμνῇ κείται διαπαντός ἐπὶ τὸ ἔργον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐναριθμῖος πᾶσα ἡ ἐργασία αὐτοῦ. Ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ τυπώσει πηλόν, καὶ πρὸ ποδῶν κάμψει ³⁰ ἰσχὺν αὐτοῦ· καρδίαν ἐπιδώσει συντελέσαι τὸ χρίσμα, καὶ ἡ ἀγρυπνία αὐτοῦ καθαρῖσαι κάμινον. Πάντες οὗτοι εἰς ³¹ χεῖρας αὐτῶν ἐνεπίστευσαν, καὶ ἕκαστος ἐν τῷ ἔργῳ αὐτοῦ σοφίζεται. Ἄνευ αὐτῶν οὐκ οἰκισθήσεται πόλις, καὶ οὐ ³² παροικήσουσιν, οὐδὲ περιπατήσουσι· καὶ ἐν ἐκκλησίᾳ οὐχ ³³ ὑπεραλοῦνται· ἐπὶ δίφρον δικαστοῦ οὐ καθιούνται, καὶ διαθήκην κρίματος οὐ διανοηθήσονται, οὐδὲ μὴ ἐκφανῶσι δικαιοσύνην καὶ κρίμα· καὶ ἐν παραβολαῖς οὐχ εὐρεθήσονται. Ἀλλὰ κτίσμα αἰῶνος στηρίσουσι· καὶ ἡ δέησις αὐτῶν ³⁴ ἐν ἐργασίᾳ τέχνης.

Πλὴν τοῦ ἐπιδόντος τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ διανοουμένου ἐν νόμῳ ὑψίστου, σοφίαν πάντων ἀρχαίων ἐκζητήσει, καὶ ἐν προ- ³⁹ φητεῖαις ἀσχοληθήσεται. Διηγήσεις ἀνδρῶν ὀνομαστῶν συν- ² τηρήσει, καὶ ἐν στροφαῖς παραβολῶν συνεισελεύσεται. Ἀπό- ³ κρυφα παροιμιῶν ἐκζητήσει, καὶ ἐν αἰνίσμασι παραβολῶν ἀναστραφήσεται. Ἀναμέσον μεγιστάνων ὑπηρετήσεται, καὶ ⁴ ἔναντι ἡγουμένου ὀφθήσεται· ἐν γῇ ἀλλοτρίων ἐθνῶν διελεύσεται, ἀγαθὰ γὰρ καὶ κακὰ ἐν ἀνθρώποις ἐπέειρασε. Τὴν ⁵ καρδίαν αὐτοῦ ἐπιδώσει ὀρθρίσαι πρὸς Κύριον τὸν ποιήσαντα αὐτόν, καὶ ἔναντι ὑψίστου δεηθήσεται· καὶ ἀνοίξει τὸ στόμα αὐτοῦ ἐν προσευχῇ, καὶ περὶ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν αὐτοῦ δεηθήσεται.

Ἐὰν Κύριος ὁ μέγας θελήσῃ, πνεύματι συνέσεως ἐμπλη- ⁶ σθήσεται· αὐτὸς ἀνομβρήσει ῥήματα σοφίας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν προσευχῇ ἐξομολογήσεται Κυρίῳ. Αὐτὸς κατευθύνει βου- ⁷ λὴν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐπιστήμην, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἀποκρύφοις αὐτοῦ διανοηθήσεται. Αὐτὸς ἐκφανεῖ παιδείαν διδασκαλίας αὐτοῦ, ⁸ καὶ ἐν νόμῳ διαθήκης Κυρίου καυχήσεται. Αἰνέσουσι τὴν ⁹ σύνεσιν αὐτοῦ πολλοὶ, ἕως τοῦ αἰῶνος οὐκ ἐξαλειφθήσεται· οὐκ ἀποστήσεται τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ ζήσεται εἰς γενεὰς γενεῶν. Τὴν σοφίαν αὐτοῦ διηγῶνται ¹⁰ ἔθνη, καὶ τὸν ἔπαινον αὐτοῦ ἐξαγγελεῖ ἐκκλησία. Ἐὰν ¹¹ ἐμμεῖν ὄνομα καταλείψει ἢ χίλιοι, καὶ ἐὰν ἀναπαύσῃται ἐμποιεῖ αὐτῷ. Ἔτι διανοηθεὶς ἐκδιηγῆσομαι, καὶ ὡς διχο- ¹² μυνία ἐπληρώθην.

Εἰσακούσετέ μου υἱοὶ ὅσοι, καὶ βλαστήσατε ὡς ῥόδον ¹³ φυόμενον ἐπὶ ρεύματος ἀγροῦ· καὶ ὡς λίβανος εὐωδιάσατε ¹⁴ ὁσμὴν, καὶ ἀνθήσατε ἄνθος ὡς κρίνον· διάδοτε ὁσμὴν καὶ αἰνέσατε ᾄσμα· εὐλογήσατε Κύριον ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς ἔργοις. Δότε τῷ ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ μεγαλωσύνην, καὶ ἐξομολογήσασθε ¹⁵ ἐν αἰνέσει αὐτοῦ, ἐν ψαλμοῖς χειλέων καὶ ἐν κινύραις, καὶ οὕτως ἐρεῖτε ἐν ἐξομολογήσει, Τα ἔργα Κυρίου πάντα ὅτι καλὰ ¹⁶ σφόδρα, καὶ πᾶν πρόσταγμα ἐν καιρῷ αὐτοῦ ἔσται. Πάντα ¹⁷ γὰρ ἐν καιρῷ αὐτοῦ ζητηθήσεται· ἐν λόγῳ αὐτοῦ ἔσται ὡς θημωνία ὕδωρ, καὶ ἐν ῥήματι στόματος αὐτοῦ ἀποδοχεῖα

18 ὑδάτων. Ἐν προστάγματι αὐτοῦ πᾶσα ἡ εὐδοκία, καὶ οὐκ
19 ἔστιν ὃς ἐλαττώσει τὸ σωτήριον αὐτοῦ. Ἔργα πάσης
σαρκὸς ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι κρυβῆναι ἀπὸ τῶν
20 ὀφθαλμῶν αὐτοῦ. Ἀπὸ τοῦ αἰῶνος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ἐπέβλεψε,
καὶ οὐθέν ἐστι θαυμάσιον ἐναντίον αὐτοῦ.

21 Οὐκ ἔστιν εἰπεῖν, τί τοῦτο; εἰς τί τοῦτο; πάντα γὰρ εἰς
22 χρείας αὐτῶν ἔκτισται. Ἡ εὐλογία αὐτοῦ ὡς ποταμὸς
23 ἐπεκάλυψε, καὶ ὡς κατακλυσμὸς ξηρὰν ἐμέθυσεν. Οὕτως
ὀργὴν αὐτοῦ ἔθνη κληρονομήσει, ὡς μετέστρεψεν ὕδατα εἰς
ἄλμην.

24 Αἱ ὁδοὶ αὐτοῦ τοῖς ὁσίοις εὐθεῖαι, οὕτως τοῖς ἀνόμοις
25 προσκόμματα. Ἀγαθὰ τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς ἔκτισται ἀπ' ἀρχῆς,
26 οὕτως τοῖς ἁμαρτωλοῖς κακά. Ἀρχὴ πάσης χρείας εἰς ζωὴν
ἀνθρώπου, ὕδωρ, πῦρ, καὶ σίδηρος, καὶ ἄλα, καὶ σεμίδαλις
πυροῦ, καὶ μέλι, καὶ γάλα, αἷμα σταφυλῆς, καὶ ἔλαιον, καὶ
27 ἱμάτιον. Ταῦτα πάντα τοῖς εὐσεβέσιν εἰς ἀγαθὰ, οὕτως τοῖς
ἁμαρτωλοῖς τραπήσεται εἰς κακά.

28 Ἔστι πνεύματα ἃ εἰς ἐκδίκησιν ἔκτισται, καὶ ἐν θυμῷ
αὐτῶν ἐστερέωσαν μᾶστιγας αὐτῶν· καὶ ἐν καιρῷ συντελείας
ἰσχὺν ἐκχέουσι, καὶ τὸν θυμὸν τοῦ ποιήσαντος αὐτοὺς κοπά-
29 σουσι. Πῦρ καὶ χάλαζα καὶ λιμὸς καὶ θάνατος, πάντα
30 ταῦτα εἰς ἐκδίκησιν ἔκτισται. Θηρίων ὀδόντες καὶ σκορπίοι
31 καὶ ἔχεις καὶ ῥομφαία ἐκδικούσα εἰς ὄλεθρον ἀσεβεῖς, ἐν τῇ
ἐντολῇ αὐτοῦ εὐφρανθήσονται, καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς εἰς χρείας
ἐτοιμασθήσονται, καὶ ἐν τοῖς καιροῖς αὐτῶν οὐ παραβή-
σονται λόγον.

32 Διὰ τοῦτο ἐξ ἀρχῆς ἐστηρίχθην, καὶ διενεόθην, καὶ ἐν
33 γραφῇ ἀφῆκα. Τὰ ἔργα Κυρίου πάντα ἀγαθὰ, καὶ πᾶσαν
34 χρείαν ἐν ᾧ αὐτῆς χορηγήσει. Καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν εἰπεῖν,
τοῦτο τούτου πονηρότερον, πάντα γὰρ ἐν καιρῷ εὐδοκιμηθή-
35 σεται. Καὶ νῦν ἐν πάσῃ καρδίᾳ καὶ στόματι ὑμνήσατε,
καὶ εὐλογήσατε τὸ ὄνομα Κυρίου.

40 Ἀσχολία μεγάλη ἔκτισται παντὶ ἀνθρώπῳ, καὶ ζυγὸς
βαρὺς ἐπὶ υἱὸν Ἀδὰμ, ἀφ' ἡμέρας ἐξόδου ἐκ γαστρὸς μητρὸς
2 αὐτῶν ἕως ἡμέρας ἐπὶ ταφῇ εἰς μητέρα πάντων. Τοὺς
διαλογισμοὺς αὐτῶν καὶ φόβον καρδίας, ἐπίνοια προσδοκίας,
3 ἡμέρα τελευτῆς· ἀπὸ καθημένου ἐπὶ θρόνου ἐν δόξῃ, καὶ ἕως
4 τεταπεινωμένου ἐν γῇ καὶ σποδῷ· ἀπὸ φοροῦντος ὑάκινθον
5 καὶ στέφανον, καὶ ἕως περιβαλλομένου ὠμόλινον· θυμὸς
καὶ ζῆλος καὶ ταραχὴ καὶ σάλος καὶ φόβος θανάτου καὶ
μηνίαμα καὶ ἔρις, καὶ ἐν καιρῷ ἀναπαύσεως ἐπὶ κοίτης ὕπνος
6 νυκτὸς ἄλλοιοῖ γινώσιν αὐτοῦ. Ὀλίγον ὡς οὐδὲν ἐν ἀνα-
παύσει, καὶ ἀπ' ἐκείνου ἐν ὕπνοις ὡς ἐν ἡμέρᾳ σκοπιᾶς,
τεθορυβημένος ἐν ὁράσει καρδίας αὐτοῦ, ὡς ἐκπέφυγὼς ἀπὸ
7 προσώπου πολέμου. Ἐν καιρῷ σωτηρίας αὐτοῦ ἐξηγέρθη,
καὶ ἀποθαυμάζων εἰς οὐδένα φόβον.

8 Μετὰ πάσης σαρκὸς ἀπὸ ἀνθρώπου ἕως κτήνους, καὶ
9 ἐπὶ ἁμαρτωλῶν ἑptaπλάσια πρὸς ταῦτα. Θάνατος
καὶ αἷμα καὶ ἔρις καὶ ῥομφαία, ἐπαγωγαί, λιμὸς καὶ
10 σύντριμμα καὶ μᾶστιξ, ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀνόμους ἐκτίσθη ταῦτα
11 πάντα, καὶ δι' αὐτοὺς ἐγένετο ὁ κατακλυσμὸς. Πάντα ὅσα
ἀπὸ γῆς εἰς γῆν ἀναστρέφει, καὶ ἀπὸ ὑδάτων εἰς θάλασ-

of waters. ¹⁸ At his commandment is done whatsoever pleaseth him; and none can hinder, when he will save. ¹⁹ The works of all flesh are before him, and nothing can be hid from his eyes. ²⁰ He seeth from everlasting to everlasting; and there is nothing wonderful before him.

²¹ A man need not to say, What is this? wherefore is that? for he hath made all things for their uses. ²² His blessing covered the dry land as a river, and watered it as a flood. ²³ As he hath turned the waters into saltness: so shall the heathen inherit his wrath.

²⁴ As his ways are plain unto the holy; so are they stumbling-blocks unto the wicked. ²⁵ For the good are good things created from the beginning: so evil things for sinners. ²⁶ The principal things for the whole use of man's life are water, fire, iron, and salt, flour of wheat, honey, milk, and the blood of the grape, and oil, and clothing. ²⁷ All these things are for good to the godly: so to the sinners they are turned into evil.

²⁸ There be spirits that are created for vengeance, which in their fury lay on sore strokes; in the time of destruction they pour out their force, and appease the wrath of him that made them. ²⁹ Fire, and hail, and famine, and death, all these were created for vengeance; ³⁰ teeth of wild beasts, and scorpions, serpents, and the sword, punishing the wicked to destruction, ³¹ shall rejoice in his commandment, and they shall be ready upon earth, when need is; and when their time is come, they shall not go beyond his word.

³² Therefore from the beginning I was resolved, and thought upon these things, and have left them in writing. ³³ All the works of the Lord are good: and he will give every needful thing in due season. ³⁴ So that a man cannot say, This is worse than that: for in time they shall all be well approved. ³⁵ And therefore praise ye the Lord with the whole heart and mouth, and bless the name of the Lord.

Great travail is created for every man, and an heavy yoke is upon the sons of Adam, from the day that they go out of their mother's womb, till the day that they return to the mother of all things. ² Their imagination of things to come, and the day of death, [trouble] their thoughts, and [cause] fear of heart; ³ from him that sitteth on a throne of glory, unto him that is humbled in earth and ashes; ⁴ from him that weareth purple and a crown, unto him that is clothed with a linen frock. ⁵ Wrath, and envy, trouble, and unquietness, fear of death, and anger, and strife, and in the time of rest upon his bed his night sleep, do change his knowledge. ⁶ Little or nothing is his rest, and afterward he is in his sleep as in a day of keeping watch, troubled in the vision of his heart, as if he were escaped out of a battle. ⁷ When all is safe, he awaketh, and marvelleth that the fear was nothing.

⁸ [Such things happen] unto all flesh, both man and beast, and sevenfold more upon sinners. ⁹ Death, and bloodshed, strife, and sword, calamities, famine, tribulation, and the scourge; ¹⁰ these things are created for the wicked, and through them came the flood. ¹¹ All things that are of the earth do turn to the earth again: and that which is of the

waters doth return into the sea. ¹² All bribery and injustice shall be blotted out: but true dealing shall endure for ever. ¹³ The goods of the unjust shall be dried up like a river, and shall vanish with noise, like a great thunder in rain.

¹⁴ While he openeth his hand he shall rejoice: so shall transgressors come to nought. ¹⁵ The children of the ungodly shall not bring forth many branches: but are as unclean roots upon a hard rock. ¹⁶ The weed growing upon every water and bank of a river shall be pulled up before all grass.

¹⁷ Bountifulness is as a most fruitful garden, and mercifulness endureth for ever. ¹⁸ To labour, and to be content with that a man hath, is a sweet life: but he that findeth a treasure is above them both. ¹⁹ Children and the building of a city continue a man's name: but a blameless wife is counted above them both. ²⁰ Wine and music rejoice the heart: but the love of wisdom is above them both.

²¹ The pipe and the psaltery make sweet melody: but a pleasant tongue is above them both. ²² Thine eye desireth favour and beauty: but more than both the first sprouting of corn. ²³ A friend and companion never meet amiss: but above both is a wife with her husband. ²⁴ Brethren and help are against time of trouble: but alms shall deliver more than them both. ²⁵ Gold and silver make the foot stand sure; but counsel is esteemed above them both. ²⁶ Riches and strength lift up the heart: but the fear of the Lord is above them both: there is no want in the fear of the Lord, and it needeth not to seek help. ²⁷ The fear of the Lord is a fruitful garden, and covereth him above all glory.

²⁸ My son, lead not a beggar's life; for better it is to die than to beg. ²⁹ The life of him that dependeth on another man's table is not to be counted for a life; for he polluteth himself with other men's meat: but a wise man well nurtured will beware thereof. ³⁰ Begging is sweet in the mouth of the shameless: but in his belly there shall burn a fire.

O death, how bitter is the remembrance of thee to a man that liveth at rest in his possessions, unto the man that hath nothing to vex him, and that hath prosperity in all things: yea, unto him that is yet able to receive meat! ² O death, acceptable is thy sentence unto the needy, and unto him whose strength faileth, that is now in the last age, and is vexed with all things, and to him that despaireth, and hath lost patience! ³ Fear not the sentence of death, remember them that have been before thee, and that come after; for this is the sentence of the Lord over all flesh. ⁴ And why art thou against the pleasure of the most High? there is no inquisition in the grave, whether thou have lived ten, or an hundred, or a thousand years.

⁵ The children of sinners are abominable children, and they that are conversant in the dwelling of the ungodly. ⁶ The inheritance of sinners' children shall perish, and from their posterity shall be a perpetual reproach. ⁷ The children will complain of an ungodly father, because they will be reproached for his sake. ⁸ Who be unto you, ungodly men, which have forsaken the law of the most high God! for if ye increase, it shall be to your destruction: ⁹ and if ye be born, ye shall be born to a curse: and if ye die, a curse shall be your portion.

σαν ανακάμπτει. Πᾶν δῶρον καὶ ἀδικία ἐξαλειφθήσεται, 12 καὶ πίστις εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα στήσεται. Χρήματα ἀδίκων ὡς 13 ποταμὸς ξηρανθήσεται, καὶ ὡς βροντὴ μεγάλη ἐν ὑετῷ ἐξηχήσει.

Ἐν τῷ ἀνοῖξαι αὐτὸν χεῖρας, εὐφρανθήσεται, οὕτως οἱ 14 παραβαίνοντες εἰς συντέλειαν ἐκλείψουσιν. Ἐκγονα ἀσεβῶν 15 οὐ πληθύνει κλάδους, καὶ ῥίζαι ἀκάθαρτοι ἐπ' ἀκροτόμου πέτρας. Ἀχει ἐπὶ παντὸς ὕδατος καὶ χεῖλους ποταμοῦ πρὸ 16 παντὸς χόρτου ἐκτιλήσεται.

Χάρις ὡς παράδεισος ἐν εὐλογίαις, καὶ ἐλεημοσύνη εἰς τὸν 17 αἰῶνα διαμένει. Ζωὴ αὐτάρκους ἐργάτου γλυκανθήσεται, 18 καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα ὁ εὐρίσκων θησαυρόν. Τέκνα καὶ οἰκο- 19 δομὴ πόλεως στηρίζουσιν ὄνομα, καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα γυνὴ ἄμωμος λογίζεται. Οἶνος καὶ μουσικὰ εὐφραίνουσι καρδίαν, 20 καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα ἀγάπησις σοφίας.

Αὐλὸς καὶ ψαλτήριον ἡδύνουσι μέλι, καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα 21 γλῶσσα ἡδεῖα. Χάριν καὶ κάλλος ἐπιθυμήσει ὁ ὀφθαλμὸς 22 σου, καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα χλόην σπόρου. Φίλος καὶ ἐταῖρος 23 εἰς καιρὸν ἀπαντῶντες, καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα γυνὴ μετὰ ἀνδρός. Ἀδελφοὶ καὶ βοήθεια εἰς καιρὸν θλίψεως, καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα 24 ἐλεημοσύνη ῥύσεται. Χρυσίον καὶ ἀργύριον ἐπιστήσουσι 25 πόδα, καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα βουλή εὐδοκμεῖται. Χρήματα 26 καὶ ἰσχὺς ἀνψώσουσι καρδίαν, καὶ ὑπὲρ ἀμφότερα φόβος Κυρίου· οὐκ ἔστι φόβῳ Κυρίου ἐλάττωσις, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐπιζητῆσαι ἐν αὐτῷ βοήθειαν. Φόβος Κυρίου ὡς παρά- 27 δεισος εὐλογίας, καὶ ὑπὲρ πᾶσαν δόξαν ἐκάλυψαν αὐτόν.

Τέκνον, ζῶν ἐπαιτήσεως μὴ βιώσης, κρεῖσσον ἀποθανεῖν 28 ἢ ἐπαιτεῖν. Ἀνὴρ βλέπων εἰς τράπεζαν ἀλλοτρίαν, οὐκ 29 ἔστιν αὐτοῦ ὁ βίος ἐν λογισμῷ ζωῆς, ἀλισγῇσιν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἐν ἐδέσμασιν ἀλλοτρίοις· ἀνὴρ δὲ ἐπιστήμων καὶ πεπαιδευμένος φυλάσσεται. Ἐν στόματι ἀναιδῶς γλυκαν- 30 θήσεται ἐπαίτησις, καὶ ἐν κοιτίᾳ αὐτοῦ πῦρ καήσεται.

ὦ θάνατε, ὡς πικρόν σου τὸ μνημόσυνόν ἐστιν ἀνθρώπῳ 41 εἰρηνεύοντι ἐν τοῖς ὑπάρχουσιν αὐτοῦ, ἀνδρὶ ἀπερισπάστῳ, καὶ εὐδοκίμῳ ἐν πᾶσι, καὶ ἔτι ἰσχύοντι ἐπιδέξασθαι τροφήν; ὦ θάνατε, καλόν σου τὸ κρίμα ἐστὶν ἀνθρώπῳ ἐπιδοκίμῳ 2 καὶ ἐλασσονίῳ ἰσχυί, ἐσχατογῆρῳ, καὶ περισπωμένῳ περὶ πάντων, καὶ ἀπειθῶντι, καὶ ἀπολωλεκότῳ ὑπομονῇ. Μὴ 3 εὐλαβοῦ κρίμα θανάτου· μνήσθητι προτέρων σου καὶ ἐσχάτων, τοῦτο τὸ κρίμα παρὰ Κυρίου πάσῃ σαρκί. Καὶ τί ἀπαναίνη 4 ἐν εὐδοκίᾳ ὑψίστου; εἴτε δέκα, εἴτε ἑκατὸν, εἴτε χίλια ἔτη· οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν ᾧδου ἐλεγμὸς ζωῆς.

Τέκνα βδελυκτὰ γίνεται τέκνα ἁμαρτωλῶν, καὶ συνανα- 5 στρεφόμενα παροικίαις ἀσεβῶν. Τέκνων ἁμαρτωλῶν ἀπο- 6 λείπει κληρονομία, καὶ μετὰ τοῦ σπέρματος αὐτῶν ἐνδελεχεῖ ὄνειδος. Πατρὶ ἀσεβεῖ μέμψεται τέκνα, ὅτι δι' αὐτὸν 7 ὀνειδισθήσονται. Οὐαὶ ὑμῖν ἄνδρες ἀσεβεῖς, οἵτινες ἐγκατε- 8 λίπετε νόμον Θεοῦ ὑψίστου. Καὶ ἐὰν γεννηθῆτε, εἰς κατά- 9 ραν γεννηθήσεσθε· καὶ ἐὰν ἀποθάνητε, εἰς κατάραν μερισ- θήσεσθε.

- 10 Πάντα ὅσα ἐκ γῆς, εἰς γῆν ἀπελεύσεται· οὕτως ἀσεβεῖς
 11 ἀπὸ κατάρας εἰς ἀπώλειαν. Πένθος ἀνθρώπων ἐν σώμασιν
 αὐτῶν, ὄνομα δὲ ἁμαρτωλῶν οὐκ ἀγαθόν, ἐξαλειφθήσεται.
 12 Φρόντισον περὶ ὀνόματος, αὐτὸ γάρ σοι διαμενεῖ, ἢ χίλιοι
 13 μεγάλοι θησαυροὶ χρυσίου. Ἀγαθῆς ζωῆς ἀριθμὸς ἡμερῶν,
 καὶ ἀγαθὸν ὄνομα εἰς αἰῶνα διαμένει.
 14 Παιδεῖαν ἐν εἰρήνῃ συντηρήσατε τέκνα, σοφία δὲ κέκρυμ-
 μένη καὶ θησαυρὸς ἀφανὴς, τίς ὠφέλεια ἐν ἀμφοτέροις;
 15 Κρείσσων ἄνθρωπος ἀποκρύπτων τὴν μωρίαν αὐτοῦ, ἢ
 16 ἄνθρωπος ἀποκρύπτων τὴν σοφίαν αὐτοῦ. Τοιγαροῦν
 ἐντράπητε ἐπὶ τῷ ῥήματί μου· οὐ γάρ ἐστι πᾶσαν αἰσχύνῃν
 διαφυλάξαι καλόν, καὶ οὐ πάντα πᾶσιν ἐν πίστει εὐδοκι-
 μέται.
 17 Αἰσχύνεσθε ἀπὸ πατρὸς καὶ μητρὸς περὶ πορνείας, καὶ
 18 ἀπὸ ἡγουμένου καὶ δυνάστου περὶ ψεύδους· ἀπὸ κριτοῦ
 καὶ ἄρχοντος περὶ πλημμελείας, ἀπὸ συναγωγῆς καὶ λαοῦ
 περὶ ἀνομίας· ἀπὸ κοινωνοῦ καὶ φίλου περὶ ἀδικίας, καὶ
 19 ἀπὸ τόπου οὗ παροικεῖς περὶ κλοπῆς· καὶ ἀπὸ ἀληθείας
 Θεοῦ καὶ διαθήκης, καὶ ἀπὸ πῆξεως ἀγκῶνος ἐπ' ἄρτοις· ἀπὸ
 20 σκορακισμοῦ λήψεως καὶ δόσεως, καὶ ἀπὸ ἀσπαζομένων
 21 περὶ σιωπῆς· ἀπὸ ὁράσεως γυναικὸς ἐταίρας, καὶ ἀπὸ
 ἀποστροφῆς προσώπου συγγενοῦς· ἀπὸ ἀφαιρέσεως μερίδος
 22 καὶ δόσεως, καὶ ἀπὸ κατανοήσεως γυναικὸς ὑπάνδρου, ἀπὸ
 περιεργείας παιδίσκης αὐτοῦ, καὶ μὴ ἐπιστῆς ἐπὶ τὴν κοίτην
 αὐτῆς, ἀπὸ φίλων περὶ λόγων ὀνειδισμοῦ, καὶ μετὰ τὸ δοῦναι,
 μὴ ὀνειδίξε.
 42 Ἀπὸ δευτερώσεως καὶ λόγου ἀκοῆς, καὶ ἀπὸ ἀποκαλύ-
 ψεων λόγων κρυφίων· καὶ ἔση αἰσχυντηρὸς ἀληθινῶς, καὶ
 εὐρίσκων χάριν ἔναντι παντὸς ἀνθρώπου· μὴ περὶ τούτων
 2 αἰσχυνθῆς, καὶ μὴ λάβῃς πρόσωπον τοῦ ἁμαρτάνειν· περὶ
 νόμου ὑψίστου καὶ διαθήκης, καὶ περὶ κρίματος δικαιοῦσαι
 3 τὸν ἀσεβῆ· περὶ λόγου κοινωνοῦ καὶ ὁδοιπόρων, καὶ περὶ
 4 δόσεως κληρονομίας ἐταίρων· περὶ ἀκριβείας ζυγοῦ καὶ
 5 σταθμῶν, περὶ κτήσεως πολλῶν καὶ ὀλίγων· περὶ ἀδιαφόρου
 πράσεως, καὶ ἐμπορῶν, καὶ περὶ παιδείας τέκνων πολλῆς,
 καὶ οἰκέτη πονηρῷ πλευρὰν αἰμάζει.
 6 Ἐπὶ γυναικὶ πονηρᾷ καλὸν σφραγίς· καὶ ὅπου χεῖρες
 7 πολλαί, κλείσον. Ὁ ἔαν παραδίδως, ἐν ἀριθμῷ καὶ σταθμῷ,
 8 καὶ δόσις καὶ λῆψις παντὶ ἐν γραφῇ. Περὶ παιδείας
 ἀνοήτου καὶ μωροῦ καὶ ἐσχατογῆρου κρινομένου πρὸς νέους,
 καὶ ἔση πεπαιδευμένος ἀληθινῶς, καὶ δεδοκιμασμένος ἔναντι
 παντὸς ζῶντος.
 9 Θυγάτηρ πατρὶ ἀπόκρυφος ἀγρυπνία, καὶ ἡ μέριμνα
 αὐτῆς ἀφιστᾷ ὕπνον· ἐν νεότητι αὐτῆς μήποτε παρακμάσῃ,
 10 καὶ συνωκηκυῖα μήποτε μισηθῇ. Ἐν παρθενίᾳ μήποτε
 βεβηλωθῇ, καὶ ἐν τοῖς πατρικοῖς αὐτῆς ἔγκυος γένηται
 μετὰ ἀνδρὸς οὐσα μήποτε παραβῇ, καὶ συνωκηκυῖα μήποτε
 11 στεριώσῃ. Ἐπὶ θυγατρὶ ἀδιατρέπτῳ στερέωσον φυλακὴν,
 μήποτε ποιήσῃ σε ἐπίχαρμα ἐχθροῖς, λαλίαν ἐν πόλει, καὶ
 ἔκκλητον λαοῦ, καὶ καταισχύνῃ σε ἐν πλήθει πολλῶν.
 12 Παντὶ ἀνθρώπῳ μὴ ἔμβλεπε ἐν κάλλει, καὶ ἐν μέσῳ γυναικῶν
 13 μὴ συνέδρευε· ἀπὸ γὰρ ἱματίων ἐκπορεύεται σὺς, καὶ ἀπὸ

¹⁰ All that are of the earth shall turn to earth again: so the ungodly shall go from a curse to destruction. ¹¹ The mourning of men is about their bodies: but an ill name of sinners shall be blotted out. ¹² Have regard to thy name; for that shall continue with thee above a thousand great treasures of gold. ¹³ A good life hath but few days: but a good name endureth for ever.

¹⁴ My children, keep discipline in peace: for wisdom that is hid, and a treasure that is not seen, what profit is in them both? ¹⁵ A man that hideth his foolishness is better than a man that hideth his wisdom. ¹⁶ Therefore be shamefaced according to my word: for it is not good to retain all shamefacedness; neither is it altogether approved in every thing.

¹⁷ Be ashamed of whoredom before father and mother: and of a lie before a prince and a mighty man; ¹⁸ of an offence before a judge and ruler; of iniquity before a congregation and people; of unjust dealing before thy partner and friend; ¹⁹ and of theft in regard of the place where thou sojournest, and in regard of the truth of God and his covenant; and to lean with thine elbow upon the meat; and of scorning to give and take; ²⁰ and of silence before them that salute thee; and to look upon an harlot; ²¹ and to turn away thy face from thy kinsman; or to take away a portion or a gift; or to gaze upon another man's wife; ²² or to be overbusy with his maid, and come not near her bed; or of upbraiding speeches before friends; and after thou hast given, upbraid not;

Or of iterating and speaking again that which thou hast heard; and of revealing of secrets; so shalt thou be truly shamefaced, and find favour before all men. Of these things be not thou ashamed, and accept no person to sin thereby: ² of the law of the most High, and his covenant; and of judgment to justify the ungodly; ³ of reckoning with thy partners and travellers; or of the gift of the heritage of friends; ⁴ of exactness of balance and weights; or of getting much or little; ⁵ and of merchants' indifferent selling; of much correction of children; and to make the side of an evil servant to bleed.

⁶ Sure keeping is good, where an evil wife is; and locked up, where many hands are. ⁷ Deliver all things in number and weight; and put all in writing that thou givest out, or receivest in. ⁸ Be not ashamed to inform the unwise and foolish, and the extreme aged that contendeth with those that are young: thus shalt thou be truly learned, and approved of all men living.

⁹ A daughter is a wakeful care to a father; and the care for her taketh away sleep: when she is young, lest she pass away the flower of her age; and being married, lest she should be hated: ¹⁰ in her virginity, lest she should be defiled and gotten with child in her father's house; and having an husband, lest she should misbehave herself; and when she is married, lest she should be barren. ¹¹ Keep a sure watch over a shameless daughter, lest she make thee a laughingstock to thine enemies, and a byword in the city, and a reproach among the people, and make thee ashamed before the multitude. ¹² Behold not everybody's beauty, and sit not in the midst of women. ¹³ For from garments cometh a moth,

and from women wickedness. ¹⁴ Better is the churlishness of a man than a courteous woman, a woman, *I say*, which bringeth shame and reproach.

¹⁵ I will now remember the works of the Lord, and declare the things that I have seen: In the words of the Lord are his works. ¹⁶ The sun that giveth light looketh upon all things, and the work thereof is full of the glory of the Lord.

¹⁷ The Lord hath not given power to the saints to declare all his marvellous works, which the Almighty Lord firmly settled, that whatsoever is might be established for his glory. ¹⁸ He seeketh out the deep, and the heart, and considereth their crafty devices: for the Lord knoweth all that can be known, and he beholdeth the signs of the world, ¹⁹ declaring the things that are past, and for to come, and revealing the steps of hidden things. ²⁰ No thought escapeth him, neither any word is hidden from him.

²¹ He hath garnished the excellent works of his wisdom, and he is from everlasting to everlasting: unto him may nothing be added, neither can he be diminished, and he hath no need of any counsellor. ²² Oh how desirable are all his works! and that a man may see even to a spark. ²³ All these things live and remain for ever for all uses, and they are all obedient. ²⁴ All things are double one against another: and he hath made nothing imperfect. ²⁵ One thing establisheth the good of another: and who shall be filled with beholding his glory?

The pride of the height, the clear firmament, the beauty of heaven, with his glorious shew; ² the sun when it appeareth, declaring at his rising a marvellous instrument, the work of the most High: ³ at noon it parcheth the country, and who can abide the burning heat thereof? ⁴ A man blowing a furnace is in works of heat, but the sun burneth the mountains three times more; breathing out fiery vapours, and sending forth bright beams, it dimmeth the eyes. ⁵ Great is the Lord that made it; and at his commandment it runneth hastily. ⁶ He made the moon also to serve in her season for a declaration of times, and a sign of the world. ⁷ From the moon is the sign of feasts, a light that decreaseth in her perfection. ⁸ The month is called after her name, increasing wonderfully in her changing, being an instrument of the armies above, shining in the firmament of heaven; ⁹ the beauty of heaven, the glory of the stars, an ornament giving light in the highest places of the Lord. ¹⁰ At the commandment of the Holy One they will stand in their order, and never faint in their watches. ¹¹ Look upon the rainbow, and praise him that made it; very beautiful it is in the brightness thereof. ¹² It compasseth the heaven about with a glorious circle, and the hands of the most High have bended it. ¹³ By his commandment he maketh the snow to fall apace, and sendeth swiftly the lightnings of his judgment. ¹⁴ Through this the treasures are opened: and clouds fly forth as fowls. ¹⁵ By his great power he maketh the clouds firm, and the hailstones are broken small.

¹⁶ At his sight the mountains are shaken, and at his will the south wind bloweth. ¹⁷ The noise of the thunder maketh the earth to tremble: so doth the northern storm and the whirlwind: as birds flying he scattereth the

γυναικὸς πονηρία γυναικός. Κρείσσων πονηρία ἀνδρὸς ἢ 14 ἀγαθοποιὸς γυνή, καὶ γυνή κατασχύνουσα εἰς ὀνειδισμόν.

Μνησθήσομαι δὴ τὰ ἔργα Κυρίου, καὶ ἃ ἑώρακα ἐκδιηγῆ- 15 σομαι· ἐν λόγοις Κυρίου τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ. Ἥλιος φωτίζων 16 κατὰ πᾶν ἐπέβλεψε, καὶ τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ πλήρες τὸ ἔργον αὐτοῦ.

Οὐκ ἐνεποίησε τοῖς ἁγίοις Κύριος ἐκδιηγῆσθαι πάντα 17 τὰ θαυμάσια αὐτοῦ, ἃ ἑστερέωσε Κύριος ὁ παντοκράτωρ, στηριχθῆναι ἐν δόξῃ αὐτοῦ τὸ πᾶν. Ἀβυσσον καὶ καρδίαν 18 ἐξέχνευσε, καὶ ἐν πανουργέμασιν αὐτῶν διενεόηθη· ἔγνω γὰρ ὁ Κύριος πᾶσαν εἰδῆσιν, καὶ ἐνέβλεψεν εἰς σημεῖον αἰῶνος· ἀπαγγέλλων τὰ παρεληλυθότα καὶ ἐπεσόμενα, καὶ ἀποκα- 19 λύπτων ἴχνη ἀποκρύφων. Οὐ παρῆλθεν αὐτὸν πᾶν διανόημα, 20 οὐκ ἐκρύβη ἀπ' αὐτοῦ οὐδὲ εἰς λόγους.

Τὰ μεγαλεῖα τῆς σοφίας αὐτοῦ ἐκόσμησε, καὶ ἕως ἐστὶ 21 πρὸ τοῦ αἰῶνος καὶ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, οὔτε προσετέθη οὔτε ἡλαττώθη, καὶ οὐδὲ προσεδείθη οὐδενὸς συμβούλου. Ὡς 22 πάντα τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ ἐπιθυμητὰ, καὶ ὡς σπινθῆρὸς ἐστι θεωρῆσαι. Πάντα ταῦτα ζῇ καὶ μένει εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα ἐν 23 πάσαις χρείαις, καὶ πάντα ὑπακούει. Πάντα δισσὰ ἐν 24 κατέναντι τοῦ ἐνός, καὶ οὐκ ἐποίησεν οὐδὲν ἐκλείπον. Ἐν 25 τοῦ ἐνός ἑστερέωσε τὰ ἀγαθὰ, καὶ τίς πλησθήσεται ὁρῶν δόξαν αὐτοῦ;

Γαυρίαμα ὕψους, στερέωμα καθαριότητος, εἶδος οὐρανοῦ 43 ἐν ὁράματι δόξης. Ἥλιος ἐν ὀπτασίᾳ διαγγέλλων ἐν ἐξόδῳ, 2 σκεῦος θαυμαστὸν, ἔργον ὑψίστου. Ἐν μεσημβρίᾳ αὐτοῦ 3 ἀναξηραίνει χώραν, καὶ ἐναντίον καύματος αὐτοῦ τίς ὑποστήσεται; Κάμινον φυσῶν ἐν ἔργοις καύματος, τριπλασίως 4 ἥλιος ἐκκαίων ὄρη· ἀτμίδας πυρώδεις ἐμφυσῶν, καὶ ἐκλάμπων ἀκτίνας ἀμαυροὶ ὀφθαλμοὺς. Μέγας Κύριος ὁ ποιήσας 5 αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐν λόγοις αὐτοῦ κατέσπευσε πορείαν. Καὶ ἡ 6 σελήνη ἐν πᾶσιν εἰς καιρὸν αὐτῆς, ἀνάδειξιν χρόνων, καὶ σημεῖον αἰῶνος. Ἀπὸ σελήνης σημεῖον ἐορτῆς, φωστήρ 7 μειούμενος ἐπὶ συντελείας. Μὴν κατὰ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῆς 8 ἐστίν, ἀξαναομένη θαυμαστῶς ἐν ἀλλοιώσει· σκεῦος παρεμβολῶν ἐν ὕψει, ἐν στερεώματι οὐρανοῦ ἐκλάμπων· κάλλος 9 οὐρανοῦ, δόξα ἄστρον, κόσμος φωτίζων, ἐν ὑψίστοις Κύριος. Ἐν λόγοις ἁγίου στήσονται κατὰ κρίμα, καὶ 10 οὐ μὴ ἐκλυθῶσιν ἐν φυλακαῖς αὐτῶν. Ἴδε τόξον, καὶ 11 εὐλόγησον τὸν ποιήσαντα αὐτὸ, σφόδρα ὡραῖον ἐν τῷ αὐγάσ-ματι αὐτοῦ. Ἐγύρωσεν οὐρανὸν ἐν κυκλώσει δόξης, χεῖρες 12 ὑψίστου ἐτάνυσαν αὐτό. Προστάγματι αὐτοῦ κατέσπευσε 13 χιόνα, καὶ ταχύνει ἄστραπὰς κρίματος αὐτοῦ. Διὰ τοῦτο 14 ἠνεώχθησαν θησαυροὶ, καὶ ἐξέπησαν νεφέλαι ὡς πετεινά. Ἐν μεγαλείῳ αὐτοῦ ἴσχυσε νεφέλας, καὶ διεθρύβησαν λίθοι 15 χαλάζης.

Καὶ ἐν ὀπτασίαις αὐτοῦ σαλευθήσεται ὄρη, ἐν θελήματι 16 πνεύσεται νότος. Φωνὴ βροντῆς αὐτοῦ ὠδίνησε γῆν, καὶ 17 καταίγῃς Βορέου καὶ συστροφῇ πνεύματος· ὡς πετεινὰ καθιπτάμενα πάσσει χιόνα, καὶ ὡς ἀκρίς καταλύουσα ἡ

- 18 κατάβασις αὐτῆς. Κάλλος λευκότητος αὐτῆς ἐκθαυμάσει ὀφθαλμός, καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἕτερου αὐτῆς ἐκστήσεται καρδιά.
 19 Καὶ πάχνην ὡς ἄλα ἐπὶ γῆς χέει, καὶ παγείσα γίνεται σκολόπων ἄκρα.
 20 Ψυχρὸς ἄνεμος Βορέης πνεύσει, καὶ παγήσεται κρύσταλλος ἀφ' ὕδατος· ἐπὶ πᾶσαν συναγωγὴν ὕδατος καταλύσει, καὶ ὡς θώρακα ἐνδύσεται τὸ ὕδωρ. Καταφάγεται ὄρη, καὶ ἔρημον ἐκκαύσει, καὶ ἀποσβέσει χλόην ὡς πῦρ.
 22 Ἰασις πάντων κατὰ σπουδὴν ὁμίχλη, δρόσος ἀπαντῶσα ἀπὸ καύσωνος ἰλαρώσει.
 23 Λογισμῷ αὐτοῦ ἐκόπασεν ἄβυσσον, καὶ ἐφύτευσεν αὐτὴν Ἰησοῦς. Οἱ πλέοντες τὴν θάλασσαν διηγοῦνται τὸν κίνδυνον αὐτῆς, καὶ ἀκοαῖς ὥτιφιν ἡμῶν θαυμάζομεν. Καὶ ἐκεῖ τὰ παράδοξα καὶ θαυμάσια ἔργα, ποικιλία παντὸς ζώου, κτίσις κητῶν. Δι' αὐτὸν εὐδοκία τέλος αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν λόγῳ αὐτοῦ σύγκειται πάντα.
 27 Πολλὰ ἐροῦμεν καὶ οὐ μὴ ἐφικώμεθα, καὶ συντέλεια λόγων τὸ πᾶν ἐστίν αὐτός. Δοξάζοντες ποῦ ἰσχύσωμεν; αὐτὸς γὰρ ὁ μέγας παρὰ πάντα τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ. Φοβερὸς Κύριος καὶ σφόδρα μέγας, καὶ θαυμαστὴ ἡ δυναστεία αὐτοῦ.
 30 Δοξάζοντες Κύριον ὑψώσατε καθόσον ἂν δύνησθε, ὑπερέξει γὰρ καὶ ἔτι· καὶ ὑψοῦντες αὐτὸν πληθύνετε ἐν ἰσχύϊ, μὴ κοπιᾶτε, οὐ γὰρ μὴ ἐφίκησθε. Τίς ἐώρακεν αὐτὸν καὶ ἐκδιηγῆσεται; καὶ τίς μεγαλύνει αὐτὸν καθὼς ἐστι; Πολλὰ ἀπόκρυφά ἐστι μείζονα τούτων, ὀλίγα γὰρ ἐώρακαμεν τῶν ἔργων αὐτοῦ. Πάντα γὰρ ἐποίησεν ὁ Κύριος, καὶ τοῖς εὐσεβέσιν ἔδωκε σοφίαν.

ΠΑΤΕΡΩΝ ὙΜΝΟΣ.

- 44 Αἰνέσωμεν δὴ ἄνδρας ἐνδόξους, καὶ τοὺς πατέρας ἡμῶν τῇ γενέσει. Πολλὴν δόξαν ἔκτισεν ὁ Κύριος, τὴν μεγαλοσύνην αὐτοῦ ἀπ' αἰῶνος. Κυριεύοντες ἐν ταῖς βασιλείαις αὐτῶν, καὶ ἄνδρες ὀνομαστοὶ ἐν δυνάμει· βουλευσονται ἐν συνέσει αὐτῶν, ἀπηγγελκότες ἐν προφητείαις· ἡγούμενοι λαοῦ ἐν διαβουλίαις, καὶ συνέσει γραμματείας λαοῦ· σοφοὶ λόγοι, ἐν παιδείᾳ αὐτῶν· ἐκζητοῦντες μέλη μουσικῶν, διηγούμενοι ἔπη ἐν γραφῇ· ἄνδρες πλούσιοι κεχορηγημένοι ἰσχύϊ, εἰρηνεύοντες ἐν παροικίαις αὐτῶν· πάντες οὗτοι ἐν γενεαῖς ἐδοξάσθησαν, καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις αὐτῶν καύχημα.
 8 Εἰσὶν αὐτῶν οἱ κατέλιπον ὄνομα τοῦ ἐκδιηγῆσασθαι
 9 ἐπαίνους· καὶ εἰσὶν ὧν οὐκ ἔστι μνημόσυνον, καὶ ἀπώλοντο ὡς οὐχ ὑπάρξαντες, καὶ ἐγένοντο ὡς οὐ γεγονότες, καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν μετ' αὐτούς.
 10 Ἀλλ' ἢ οὗτοι ἄνδρες ἐλέους, ὧν αἱ δικαιοσύναι οὐκ ἐπελήσθησαν. Μετὰ τοῦ σπέρματος αὐτῶν διαμενεῖ ἀγαθὴ κληρονομία, ἔκγονα αὐτῶν ἐν ταῖς διαθήκαις. Ἔσθι σπέρμα αὐτῶν καὶ τέκνα αὐτῶν δι' αὐτούς· ἕως αἰῶνος μενεῖ σπέρμα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἡ δόξα αὐτῶν οὐκ ἐξαλειφθήσεται.
 14 Τὸ σῶμα αὐτῶν ἐν εἰρήνῃ ἐτάφη, καὶ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῶν ζῇ εἰς γενεάς. Σοφίαν αὐτῶν διηγῶνται λαοὶ, καὶ τὸν ἔπαινον ἐξαγγέλλει ἐκκλησία.
 16 Ἐνὼχ εὐηρέστησε Κυρίῳ, καὶ μετετέθη ὑπόδειγμα μετανοίας ταῖς γενεαῖς. Νῶε εὐρέθη τέλειος δίκαιος, ἐν

snow, and the falling down thereof is as the lighting of grasshoppers: ¹⁸ the eye marvelleth at the beauty of the whiteness thereof, and the heart is astonished at the raining of it. ¹⁹ The hoarfrost also as salt he poureth on the earth, and being congealed, it becometh sharp peaks.

²⁰ When the cold north wind bloweth, and the water is congealed into ice, it abideth upon every gathering together of water, and clotheh the water as with a breastplate. ²¹ It devoureth the mountains, and burneth the wilderness, and consumeth the grass as fire. ²² A present remedy of all is a mist coming speedily: a dew coming after heat refresheth.

²³ By his counsel he appeaseth the deep, and planteth islands therein. ²⁴ They that sail on the sea tell of the danger thereof; and when we hear it with our ears, we marvel thereat. ²⁵ For therein be strange and wondrous works, variety of all kinds of beasts, the race of whales. ²⁶ By him the end of them hath prosperous success, and by his word all things consist.

²⁷ We may speak much, and yet come short; wherefore in sum, he is all. ²⁸ How shall we be able to magnify him? for he is great above all his works. ²⁹ The Lord is terrible and very great, and marvellous is his power. ³⁰ When ye glorify the Lord, exalt him as much as ye can; for even yet will he far exceed: and when ye exalt him, put forth all your strength, and be not weary; for ye can never go far enough. ³¹ Who hath seen him, that he might tell us? and who can magnify him as he is? ³² There are yet hid greater things than these be, for we have seen but a few of his works. ³³ For the Lord hath made all things; and to the godly hath he given wisdom.

Let us now praise famous men, and our fathers that begat us. ² The Lord hath wrought great glory by them through his great power from the beginning. ³ Such as did bear rule in their kingdoms, men renowned for their power, giving counsel by their understanding, and declaring prophecies: ⁴ leaders of the people by their counsels, and by their knowledge of learning meet for the people, wise and eloquent in their instruction: ⁵ such as found out musical tunes, and recited verses in writing: ⁶ rich men furnished with ability, living peaceably in their habitations: ⁷ all these were honoured in their generations, and were the glory of their times. ⁸ There be of them that have left a name behind them, that their praises might be reported. ⁹ And some there be, which have no memorial; who are perished, as though they had never been; and are become as though they had never been born; and their children after them.

¹⁰ But these were merciful men, whose righteousness hath not been forgotten. ¹¹ With their seed shall continually remain a good inheritance, and their children are within the covenant. ¹² Their seed standeth fast, and their children for their sakes. ¹³ Their seed shall remain for ever, and their glory shall not be blotted out. ¹⁴ Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore. ¹⁵ The people will tell of their wisdom, and the congregation will shew forth their praise.

¹⁶ Enoch pleased the Lord, and was translated, being an example of repentance to all generations. ¹⁷ Noah was found perfect and righteous;

in the time of wrath he was taken in exchange [for the world;] therefore was he left as a remnant unto the earth, when the flood came. ¹⁸ An everlasting covenant was made with him, that all flesh shall perish no more by the flood.

¹⁹ Abraham was a great father of many people: in glory was there none like unto him; ²⁰ who kept the law of the most High, and was in covenant with him: he established the covenant in his flesh; and when he was proved, he was found faithful. ²¹ Therefore he assured him by an oath, that he would bless the nations in his seed, and that he would multiply him as the dust of the earth, and exalt his seed as the stars, and cause them to inherit from sea to sea, and from the river unto the utmost part of the land.

²² With Isaac did he establish likewise, for Abraham his father's sake, the blessing of all men, and the covenant, ²³ and made it rest upon the head of Jacob. He acknowledged him in his blessing, and gave him an heritage, and divided his portions; among the twelve tribes did he part them. ²⁴ And he brought out of him a merciful man, which found favour in the sight of all flesh; even Moses, beloved of God and men, whose memorial is blessed. ² He made him like to the glorious saints, and magnified him, so that his enemies stood in fear of him. ³ By his words he caused the wonders to cease, and he made him glorious in the sight of kings, and gave him a commandment for his people, and shewed him part of his glory. ⁴ He sanctified him in his faithfulness and meekness, and chose him out of all men. ⁵ He made him to hear his voice, and brought him into the dark cloud, and gave him commandments before his face, even the law of life and knowledge, that he might teach Jacob his covenants, and Israel his judgments.

⁶ He exalted Aaron, an holy man like unto him, even his brother, of the tribe of Levi. ⁷ An everlasting covenant he made with him, and gave him the priesthood among the people; he beautified him with comely ornaments, and clothed him with a robe of glory. ⁸ He put upon him perfect glory; and strengthened him with rich garments, with breeches, with a long robe, and the ephod. ⁹ And he compassed him with pomegranates, and with many golden bells round about, that as he went there might be a sound, and a noise made that might be heard in the temple for a memorial to the children of his people; ¹⁰ with a holy garment, with gold, and blue silk, and purple, the work of the embroiderer, with a breastplate of judgment, with the revealers of truth; ¹¹ with twisted scarlet, the work of the cunning workman, with precious stones graven like seals, and set in gold, the work of the jeweller, with a writing engraved for a memorial, after the number of the tribes of Israel. ¹² He set a crown of gold upon the mitre, wherein was engraven Holiness, an ornament of honour, a costly work, the desires of the eyes, goodly and beautiful.

¹³ Before him there were none such, neither did ever any stranger put them on, but only his children and his children's children perpetually. ¹⁴ Their sacrifices shall be wholly consumed every day twice continually.

¹⁵ Moses consecrated him, and anointed him

καιρῷ ὀργῆς ἐγένετο ἀντάλλαγμα· διὰ τοῦτο ἐγενήθη κατά-
λειμμα τῇ γῇ, διὰ τοῦτο ἐγένετο κατακλυσμός. Διαθήκαι 18
αἰῶνος ἐτέθησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν, ἵνα μὴ ἐξαλειφθῇ κατακλυσμῷ
πᾶσα σάρξ.

Ἀβραὰμ μέγας πατὴρ πλήθους ἐθνῶν, καὶ οὐχ εὐρέθη 19
ὅμοιος ἐν τῇ δόξῃ, ὃς συνετήρησε νόμον ὑψίστου, καὶ 20
ἐγένετο ἐν διαθήκῃ μετ' αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐν σαρκὶ αὐτοῦ ἔστησε
διαθήκην, καὶ ἐν πειρασμῷ εὐρέθη πιστός. Διὰ τοῦτο 21
ἐν ὀρκῷ ἔστησεν αὐτῷ, ἐνευλογηθῆναι ἔθνη ἐν τῷ σπέρματι
αὐτοῦ, πληθύναι αὐτὸν ὡς χοῦν τῆς γῆς, καὶ ὡς ἄστρα
ἀνυψῶσαι τὸ σπέρμα αὐτοῦ, καὶ κατακληρονομήσαι αὐτοὺς
ἀπὸ θαλάσσης ἕως θαλάσσης, καὶ ἀπὸ ποταμοῦ ἕως
ἄκρου γῆς.

Καὶ ἐν τῷ Ἰσαὰκ ἔστησεν οὕτως διὰ Ἀβραὰμ τὸν πατέρα 22
αὐτοῦ, εὐλογίαν πάντων ἀνθρώπων καὶ διαθήκην. Καὶ 23
κατέπαυσεν ἐπὶ κεφαλὴν Ἰακώβ· ἐπέγνω αὐτὸν ἐν εὐλογίαις
αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ ἐν κληρονομίᾳ· καὶ διέστειλε μερίδας
αὐτοῦ, ἐν φυλαῖς ἐμέρισε δεκαδύο. Καὶ ἐξήγαγεν ἐξ 24
αὐτοῦ ἄνδρα ἐλέους, εὐρίσκοντα χάριν ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς πᾶσης
σαρκός· ἐγαπημένον ὑπὸ Θεοῦ καὶ ἀνθρώπων Μωυσῆν, οὗ τὸ 45
μνημόσυνον ἐν εὐλογίαις. Ὁμοίωσεν αὐτὸν δόξῃ ἁγίων, 2
καὶ ἐμεγάλυνεν αὐτὸν ἐν φόβοις ἐχθρῶν. Ἐν λόγοις αὐτοῦ 3
σημεῖα κατέπαυσεν, ἐδόξασεν αὐτὸν κατὰ πρόσωπον βασι-
λέων· ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ πρὸς λαὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔδειξεν αὐτῷ
τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ. Ἐν πίστει καὶ πραύτητι αὐτοῦ ἡγίασεν, 4
ἐξελέξατο αὐτὸν ἐκ πάσης σαρκός. Ἠκούτισεν αὐτὸν τῆς 5
φωνῆς αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἰσήγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν γνόφον· καὶ
ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ κατὰ πρόσωπον ἐντολὰς, νόμον ζωῆς καὶ
ἐπιστήμης, διδάξαι τὸν Ἰακώβ διαθήκην, καὶ κρίματα αὐτοῦ
τὸν Ἰσραήλ.

Ἰσραὴλ ὕψωσεν ἅγιον ὅμοιον αὐτῷ, ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ, ἐκ 6
φυλῆς Λευί. Ἐστησεν αὐτῷ διαθήκην αἰῶνος, καὶ ἔδωκεν 7
αὐτῷ ἱερατείαν λαοῦ· ἐμακάρισεν αὐτὸν ἐν εὐκοσμίᾳ, καὶ
περιέζωσεν αὐτὸν στολὴν δόξης. Ἐνέδυσεν αὐτὸν συντέ- 8
λειαν καυχήματος, καὶ ἐστερέωσεν αὐτὸν σκεύεσιν ἰσχύος,
περισκελῇ καὶ ποδήρῃ καὶ ἐπωμίδα, καὶ ἐκύκλωσεν αὐτὸν 9
ροῖσκοις χρυσοῖς, κώδωσι πλείστοις κυκλόθεν, ἡχῆσαι φωνὴν
ἐν βήμασιν αὐτοῦ, ἀκουστὸν ποιῆσαι ἡχον ἐν ναῷ εἰς
μνημόσυνον υἱοῖς λαοῦ αὐτοῦ, στολῇ ἁγία, χρυσῷ, καὶ 10
ὑακίνθῳ, καὶ πορφύρᾳ, ἔργῳ ποικιλτοῦ, λογείῳ κρίσεως,
δῆλοις ἀληθείας, κεκλωσμένη κόκκῳ, ἔργῳ τεχνίτου, λίθοις 11
πολυτελέσι γλύμματος σφραγίδος, ἐν δέσει χρυσοῦ, ἔργῳ
λιθουργοῦ, εἰς μνημόσυνον ἐν γραφῇ κεκολαμμένη κατ'
ἀριθμὸν φυλῶν Ἰσραήλ· στέφανον χρυσοῦ ἐπάνω κιδιάρεως, 12
ἐκτύπωμα σφραγίδος ἀγιάσματος, καύχημα τιμῆς, ἔργον
ἰσχύος, ἐπιθυμήματα ὀφθαλμῶν κοσμούμενα ὥραϊα.

Πρὸ αὐτοῦ οὐ γέγονε τοιαῦτα ἕως αἰῶνος, οὐκ ἐνεδύσατο 13
ἄλλογενὴς, πλὴν τῶν υἱῶν αὐτοῦ μόνον, καὶ τὰ ἔκγονα αὐτοῦ
διαπαντός. Θυσίαι αὐτοῦ ὀλοκαρπωθήσονται καθημέραν 14
ἐνδελεχῶς οἷς.

Ἐπλήρωσε Μωυσῆς τὰς χεῖρας, καὶ ἔχρισεν αὐτὸν ἐν 15

ἐλαίῳ ἁγίῳ· ἐγενήθη αὐτῷ εἰς διαθήκην αἰώνιον, καὶ ἐν τῷ σπέρματι αὐτοῦ ἐν ἡμέραις οὐρανοῦ, λειτουργεῖν αὐτῷ ἅμα καὶ ἱερατεύειν, καὶ εὐλογεῖν τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ.

- 16 Ἐξελέξατο αὐτὸν ἀπὸ παντὸς ζῶντος, προσαγαγεῖν κάρπωσιν Κυρίῳ, θυμίαμα καὶ εὐωδίαν εἰς μνημόσυνον, ἐξιλάσκεσθαι
17 περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ σου. Ἐδωκεν αὐτὸν ἐν ἐντολαῖς αὐτοῦ, ἐξουσίαν ἐν διαθήκαις κριμάτων, διδάξαι τὸν Ἰακώβ τὰ μαρτύρια, καὶ ἐν νόμῳ αὐτοῦ φωτίσαι Ἰσραήλ.
18 Ἐπισυνέστησαν αὐτῷ ἀλλότριοι, καὶ ἐξήλωσαν αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, ἄνδρες οἱ περὶ Δαθὰν καὶ Ἀβειρὼν, καὶ ἡ συναγωγὴ Κορὲ ἐν θυμῷ καὶ ὀργῇ.
19 Εἶδε Κύριος καὶ οὐκ εὐδόκησε, καὶ συνετελέσθησαν ἐν θυμῷ ὀργῆς· ἐποίησεν αὐτοῖς τέρατα, καταναλῶσαι ἐν πυρὶ
20 φλογὸς αὐτοῦ. Καὶ προσέθηκεν Ἀαρὼν δόξαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ κληρονομίαν· ἀπαρχὰς πρωτογεννημάτων ἐμέρισεν
21 αὐτοῖς· ἄρτον ἐν πρώτοις ἡτοίμασε πλησμονήν. Καὶ γὰρ θυσίας Κυρίου φάγονται, ὥς ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ τε καὶ τῷ σπέρματι
22 αὐτοῦ. Πλὴν ἐν γῇ λαοῦ οὐ κληρονομήσει, καὶ μερίς οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτῷ ἐν λαῷ, αὐτὸς γὰρ μερίς σου, κληρονομία.
23 Καὶ Φινεὲς υἱὸς Ἐλεάζαρ τρίτος εἰς δόξαν, ἐν τῷ ζηλωσάει αὐτὸν ἐν φόβῳ Κυρίου, καὶ στήσαι αὐτὸν ἐν τροπῇ λαοῦ, ἐν ἀγαθότητι προθυμίας ψυχῆς αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐξιλάσατο περὶ τοῦ
24 Ἰσραήλ. Διὰ τοῦτο ἐστάθη αὐτῷ διαθήκη εἰρήνης, προστάτην ἁγίων καὶ λαῷ αὐτοῦ, ἵνα αὐτῷ ᾗ καὶ τῷ σπέρματι
25 αὐτοῦ ἱερωσύνης μεγαλείον εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας· καὶ διαθηκὴν τῷ Δαυὶδ υἱῷ ἐκ φυλῆς Ἰούδα, κληρονομία βασιλείως υἱοῦ
26 ἐξ υἱοῦ μόνου, κληρονομία Ἀαρὼν καὶ τῷ σπέρματι αὐτοῦ.
Δῶν ὑμῖν σοφίαν ἐν καρδίᾳ ὑμῶν, κρίνειν τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν δικαιοσύνῃ, ἵνα μὴ ἀφανισθῇ τὰ ἀγαθὰ αὐτῶν, καὶ τὴν δόξαν αὐτῶν εἰς γενεὰς αὐτῶν.
46 Κράταιος ἐν πολέμοις Ἰησοῦς Ναυῆ, καὶ διάδοχος Μωυσῆ ἐν προφητείαις· ὃς ἐγένετο κατὰ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ μέγας ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ ἐκλεκτῶν αὐτοῦ, ἐκδικῆσαι ἐπεχειρομένους ἐχθροὺς,
2 ὅπως κληρονομήσῃ τὸν Ἰσραήλ. Ὡς ἐδοξάσθη ἐν τῷ ἐπ' αὐραὶ
3 χεῖρας αὐτοῦ, καὶ τῷ ἐκκλίνειν ῥομφαίαν ἐπὶ πόλεις; Τίς πρότερον αὐτοῦ οὕτως ἔσται; τοὺς γὰρ πολεμίους Κύριος
4 αὐτὸς ἐπήγαγεν. Οὐχὶ ἐν χειρὶ αὐτοῦ ἀνεπόδισεν ὁ ἥλιος,
5 καὶ μία ἡμέρα ἐγενήθη πρὸς δύο; Ἐπεκαλέσατο τὸν ὑψιστον δυνάστην, ἐν τῷ θλίψαι αὐτὸν ἐχθροὺς κυκλόθεν·
6 καὶ ἐπήκουσεν αὐτῶν μέγας Κύριος. Ἐν λίθοις χαλάζης δυνάμεως κραταῖας· κατέρραξεν ἐπ' ἔθνος πόλεμον, καὶ ἐν καταβάσει ἀπόλεσεν ἀνθεστηκότας· ἵνα γνῶσιν ἔθνη πανοπλίαν αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἐναντίον Κυρίου ὁ πόλεμος αὐτοῦ, καὶ γὰρ ἐπηκολούθησεν ὀπίσω δυνάστων.
7 Καὶ ἐν ἡμέραις Μωυσέως ἐποίησεν ἔλεος, αὐτὸς καὶ Χαλεβ υἱὸς Ἰεφοννῆ, ἀντιστῆναι ἐναντι ἐχθροῦ, κωλύσαι λαὸν ἀπὸ ἁμαρτίας, καὶ κοπάσαι γογγυσμὸν πονηρίας.
8 Καὶ αὐτοὶ δύο ὄντες διεσώθησαν ἀπὸ ἑξακοσίων χιλιᾶδων

with holy oil; this was appointed unto him by an everlasting covenant, and to his seed, so long as the heavens should remain, that they should minister unto him, and execute the office of the priesthood, and bless the people in his name.

¹⁶ He chose him out of all men living to offer sacrifices to the Lord, incense, and a sweet savour, for a memorial, to make reconciliation for his people. ¹⁷ He gave unto him his commandments, and authority in the statutes of judgments, that he should teach Jacob the testimonies, and inform Israel in his laws.

¹⁸ Strangers conspired together against him, and maligned him in the wilderness, even the men that were of Dathan's and Abiron's side, and the congregation of Core, with fury and wrath.

¹⁹ This the Lord saw, and it displeased him, and in his wrathful indignation were they consumed: he did wonders upon them, to consume them with the fiery flame. ²⁰ But he made Aaron more honourable, and gave him an heritage, and divided unto him the firstfruits of the increase; especially he prepared bread in abundance: ²¹ for they eat of the sacrifices of the Lord, which he gave unto him and his seed. ²² Howbeit in the land of the people he had no inheritance, neither had he any portion among the people: for the Lord himself is his portion and inheritance.

²³ The third in glory is Phinees the son of Eleazar, because he had zeal in the fear of the Lord, and stood up with good courage of heart when the people were turned back, and made reconciliation for Israel. ²⁴ Therefore was there a covenant of peace made with him, that he should be the chief of the sanctuary and of his people, and that he and his posterity should have the dignity of the priesthood for ever: ²⁵ according to the covenant made with David son of Jesse, of the tribe of Juda, that the inheritance of the king should be to his posterity alone: so the inheritance of Aaron should also be unto his seed. ²⁶ God give you wisdom in your heart to judge his people in righteousness, that their good things be not abolished, and that their glory may endure for ever.

Jesus the son of Nave was valiant in the wars, and was the successor of Moses in prophecies, who according to his name was made great for the saving of the elect of God, and taking vengeance of the enemies that rose up against them, that he might set Israel in their inheritance. ² How great glory gat he, when he did lift up his hands, and stretched out his sword against the cities! ³ Who before him has so stood? for the Lord himself brought his enemies over to him. ⁴ Did not the sun go back by his means? and was not one day as long as two? ⁵ He called upon the most high Lord, when the enemies pressed upon him on every side; and the great Lord heard him. ⁶ And with hailstones of mighty power he made the battle to fall violently upon the nations, and by their falling he destroyed them that resisted, that the nations might know all their strength, because he fought in the sight of the Lord, and he followed the Mighty One.

⁷ In the time of Moses also he did a work of mercy, he and Caleb the son of Jephunne, in that they withstood the enemy, and withheld the people from sin, and appeased the wicked murmuring. ⁸ And of six hundred thousand people on foot, they two alone were pre-

served to bring them into the heritage, even unto the land that floweth with milk and honey.

⁹ The Lord gave strength also unto Caleb, which remained with him unto his old age: so that he entered upon the high places of the land, and his seed obtained it for an heritage: ¹⁰ that all the children of Israel might see that it is good to follow the Lord. ¹¹ And concerning the judges, every one by name, whose heart went not a whoring, nor departed from the Lord, let their memory be blessed. ¹² Let their bones flourish out of their place, and let the name of them that were honoured be continued upon their children.

¹³ Samuel, the prophet of the Lord, beloved of his Lord, established a kingdom, and anointed princes over his people. ¹⁴ By the law of the Lord he judged the congregation, and the Lord had respect unto Jacob. ¹⁵ By his faithfulness he was found a true prophet, and by his word he was known to be faithful in vision. ¹⁶ He called upon the mighty Lord, when his enemies pressed upon him on every side, when he offered the sucking lamb. ¹⁷ And the Lord thundered from heaven, and with a great noise made his voice to be heard. ¹⁸ And he destroyed the rulers of the Tyrians, and all the princes of the Philistines.

¹⁹ And before his long sleep he made protestation in the sight of the Lord and his anointed, I have not taken any man's goods, so much as a shoe: and no man did accuse him. ²⁰ And after his death he prophesied, and shewed the king his end, and lifted up his voice from the earth in prophecy, to blot out the wickedness of the people.

And after him rose up Nathan to prophesy in the time of David.

² As is the fat taken away [from the peace offering, so was David chosen out of the children of Israel. ³ He played with lions as with kids, and with bears as with lambs. ⁴ Slew he not a giant, when he was yet but young? and did he not take away reproach from the people, when he lifted up his hand with the stone in the sling, and beat down the boasting of Goliath? ⁵ for he called upon the most high Lord; and he gave him strength in his right hand to slay that mighty warrior, and set up the horn of his people.

⁶ So the people honoured him with ten thousands, and praised him in the blessings of the Lord in that he gave him a crown of glory. ⁷ For he destroyed the enemies on every side, and brought to nought the Philistines his adversaries, and brake their horn in sunder unto this day. ⁸ In all his works he praised the Holy One most high with words of glory; with his whole heart he sang songs, and loved him that made him. ⁹ He set singers also before the altar, that by their voices they might make sweet melody, and daily sing praises in their songs. ¹⁰ He beautified their feasts, and set in order the solemn times until the end, that they might praise his holy name, and that the temple might sound from morning.

¹¹ The Lord took away his sins, and exalted his horn for ever: he gave him a covenant of kings, and a throne of glory in Israel. ¹² After him rose up a wise son, and for his sake he dwelt at large. ¹³ Solomon reigned in a peace-

πεζών, εἰσαγαγεῖν αὐτοὺς εἰς κληρονομίαν, εἰς γῆν ρέουσαν γάλα καὶ μέλι.

Καὶ ἔδωκεν ὁ Κύριος τῷ Χαλὲβ ἰσχύϊν, καὶ ἕως γήρους 9 διέμεινεν αὐτῷ, ἐπιβῆναι αὐτὸν ἐπὶ ὕψος τῆς γῆς, καὶ τὸ σπέρμα αὐτοῦ κατέσχε κληρονομίαν· ὅπως ἴδωσι πάντες οἱ 10 υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ, ὅτι καλὸν τὸ πορεύεσθαι ὀπίσω Κυρίου. Καὶ 11 οἱ κριταὶ ἕκαστος τῷ αὐτοῦ ὀνόματι, ὅσων οὐκ ἐξεπόρνευσεν ἡ καρδιά, καὶ ὅσοι οὐκ ἀπεστράφησαν ἀπὸ Κυρίου, εἴη τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτῶν ἐν εὐλογίαις· τὰ ὅσα αὐτῶν ἀναθάλοι 12 ἐκ τοῦ τόπου αὐτῶν, καὶ τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῶν ἀντικαταλλασσό- μένον ἐφ' υἱοῖς δεδοξασμένων αὐτῶν.

Ἦγαπημένος ὑπὸ Κυρίου αὐτοῦ Σαμουὴλ προφήτης 13 Κυρίου κατέστησε βασιλείαν, καὶ ἔχρισεν ἄρχοντας ἐπὶ τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ. Ἐν νόμῳ Κυρίου ἔκρινε συναγωγὴν, καὶ 14 ἐπεσκέψατο Κύριος τὸν Ἰακώβ. Ἐν πίστει αὐτοῦ ἠκρι- 15 βάσθη προφήτης, καὶ ἐγνώσθη ἐν πίστει αὐτοῦ πιστὸς ὁράσεως. Καὶ ἐπεκαλέσατο τὸν Κύριον δυνάστην, ἐν τῷ 16 θλίψαι ἐχθροὺς αὐτοῦ κυκλόθεν, ἐν προσφορᾷ ἄρνος γαλα- θηνοῦ. Καὶ ἐβρόντησεν ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ Κύριος, καὶ ἐν ἡχῳ 17 μεγάλῳ ἀκουστὴν ἐποίησε τὴν φωνὴν αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐξέτριψεν 18 ἡγούμενους Τυρίων, καὶ πάντας ἄρχοντας Φυλιστιεῖμ.

Καὶ πρὸ καιροῦ κοιμήσεως αἰῶνος ἐπεμαρτύρατο ἔναντι 19 Κυρίου καὶ χριστοῦ, χρήματα καὶ ἕως ὑποδημάτων ἀπὸ πάσης σαρκὸς οὐκ εἴληφα· καὶ οὐκ ἐνεκάλεσεν αὐτῷ ἄνθρωπος. Καὶ μετὰ τὸ ὑπνῶσαι αὐτὸν προεφῆτευσεν, καὶ 20 ὑπέδειξε βασιλεῖ τὴν τελευτὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀνύψωσεν ἐκ γῆς τὴν φωνὴν αὐτοῦ, ἐν προφητείᾳ ἐξαλεῖψαι ἀνομίαν λαοῦ.

Καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο ἀνέστη Νάθαν προφητεύειν ἐν ἡμέραις 47 Δαυὶδ.

Ὡςπερ στέαρ ἀφωρισμένον ἀπὸ σωτηρίου, οὕτως Δαυὶδ 2 ἀπὸ τῶν υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ. Ἐν λέουσιν ἔπαισεν ὡς ἐν ἐρίφοις, 3 καὶ ἐν ἄρκοις ὡς ἐν ἄρνασι προβάτων. Ἐν νεότητι αὐτοῦ 4 οὐχὶ ἀπέκτεινε γίγαντα, καὶ ἐξῆρην ὀνειδισμόν ἐκ λαοῦ, ἐν τῷ ἐπαραι χεῖρα ἐν λίθῳ σφειδόντης, καὶ καταβαλεῖν γαυ- ρίαμα τοῦ Γολιάθ; Ἐπεκαλέσατο γὰρ Κύριον τὸν ὑψίστον, 5 καὶ ἔδωκεν ἐν τῇ δεξιᾷ αὐτοῦ κράτος ἐξᾶραι ἄνθρωπον δυνα- τὸν ἐν πολέμῳ, ἀνυψῶσαι κέρας λαοῦ αὐτοῦ.

Οὕτως ἐν μυριάσιν ἐδόξασεν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἤνεσεν αὐτὸν ἐν 6 εὐλογίαις Κυρίου, ἐν τῷ φέρεσθαι αὐτῷ διάδημα δόξης. Ἐξέτριψε γὰρ ἐχθροὺς κυκλόθεν, καὶ ἐξουδένωσε Φυλιστιεῖμ 7 τοὺς ὑπεναντίους· ἕως σήμερον συνετριψεν αὐτῶν κέρας. Ἐν παντὶ ἔργῳ αὐτοῦ ἔδωκεν ἐξομολόγησιν· ἀγίῳ ὑψίστῳ 8 ῥήματι δόξης ἐν πάσῃ καρδίᾳ αὐτοῦ ὑμνησε, καὶ ἠγάπησε τὸν ποιήσαντα αὐτόν. Καὶ ἔστησε ψαλτωδοὺς κατέναντι 9 τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου, καὶ ἐξ ἡχου αὐτῶν γλυκαίνει μέλη. Ἐδωκεν ἐν ἑορταῖς εὐπρέπειαν, καὶ ἐκόσμησε καιροὺς μέχρι 10 συντελείας· ἐν τῷ αἰνεῖν αὐτοὺς τὸ ἅγιον ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπὸ πρωῒ ἠχεῖν τὸ ἁγίασμα.

Κύριος ἀφείλε τὰς ἁμαρτίας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀνύψωσεν εἰς 11 αἰῶνα τὸ κέρας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ διαθήκην βασιλέων καὶ θρόνον δόξης ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ. Μετὰ τούτου ἀνέστη υἱὸς 12 ἐπιστήμων, καὶ δι' αὐτὸν κατέλυσεν ἐν πλατυσμῷ. Σαλω- 13

- μὼν ἐβασίλευσεν ἐν ἡμέραις εἰρήνης, ᾧ ὁ Θεὸς κατέπαυσε κυκλοθεῖν, ἵνα στήσῃ οἶκον ἐπ' ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐτοιμάσῃ
- 14 ἀγίασμα εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Ὡς ἐσοφίσθης ἐν νεότητί σου, καὶ
- 15 ἐνεπλήσθης ὡς ποταμὸς συνέσεως. Γῆν ἐπεκάλυψεν ἡ ψυχὴ σου, καὶ ἐνέπλησας ἐν παραβολαῖς αἰνιγμάτων.
- 16 Εἰς νήσους πόρρω ἀφίκετο τὸ ὄνομά σου, καὶ ἡγαπήθης
- 17 ἐν τῇ εἰρήνῃ σου. Ἐν ᾧδαῖς καὶ παροιμίαις καὶ παραβο-
- 18 λαῖς, καὶ ἐν ἐρμηνείαις ἀπεθαύμασάν σε χῶραι. Ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ ἐπικεκλημένου Θεοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, συνή-
- 19 γαγες ὡς κασσίτερον τὸ χρυσίον, καὶ ὡς μόλιβδον ἐπλήθυνας ἀργύριον. Παρενέκλινας τὰς λαγόνas σου γυναιξί, καὶ
- 20 ἐνεξουσιάσθης ἐν τῷ σώματί σου. Ἔδωκας μῶμον ἐν τῇ δόξῃ σου, καὶ ἐβεβήλωσας τὸ σπέρμα σου, ἐπαγαγεῖν ὀργὴν ἐπὶ τὰ τέκνα σου, καὶ κατενύγην ἐπὶ τῇ ἀφροσύνῃ
- 21 σου, γενέσθαι δίχα τυραννίδα, καὶ ἐξ Ἐφραὶμ ἄρξαι βασιλείαν ἀπειθῆ.
- 22 Ὁ δὲ Κύριος οὐ μὴ καταλίπῃ τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐ μὴ διαφθαρή ἀπὸ τῶν ἔργων αὐτοῦ· οὐδὲ μὴ ἐξαλείψῃ ἐκλεκτοῦ ἐκγονα, καὶ σπέρμα τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντος αὐτὸν οὐ μὴ ἐξάρῃ· καὶ τῷ Ἰακώβ ἔδωκε κατάλειμμα, καὶ τῷ Δαβὶδ ἐξ αὐτοῦ ῥίζαν.
- 23 Καὶ ἀνεπαύσατο Σαλωμὼν μετὰ τῶν πατέρων· καὶ κατέλιπε μετ' αὐτὸν ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος αὐτοῦ, λαοῦ ἀφροσύνῃν καὶ ἐλασσούμενον συνέσει, Ῥοβοὰμ, ὃς ἀπέστησε λαὸν ἐκ βουλῆς αὐτοῦ· καὶ Ἱεροβοὰμ υἱὸν Ναβατ, ὃς ἐξήμαρτε τὸν
- 24 Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἔδωκε τῷ Ἐφραὶμ ὁδὸν ἀμαρτίας. Καὶ ἐπληθύνθησαν αἱ ἀμαρτίαι αὐτῶν σφόδρα, ἀποστήσαι αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ
- 25 τῆς γῆς αὐτῶν. Καὶ πᾶσαν πονηρίαν ἐξεζήτησαν, ἕως ἐκδίκησις ἔλθῃ ἐπ' αὐτούς.
- 48 Καὶ ἀνέστη Ἡλίας προφήτης ὡς πῦρ, καὶ ὁ λόγος αὐτοῦ ὡς λαμπὰς ἐκαίετο· ὃς ἐπήγαγεν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς λιμὸν, καὶ τῷ ζήλῳ αὐτοῦ ὥλιγοποίησεν αὐτούς. Ἐν λόγῳ Κυρίου ἀνέσχεν οὐρανὸν, κατήγαγεν οὕτως τρεῖς πῦρ. Ὡς ἐδοξάσθης Ἡλία ἐν τοῖς θαυμασίοις σου; καὶ τίς ὁμοίός σοι καυ-
- 5 χάσθαι; Ὁ ἐγείρας νεκρὸν ἐκ θανάτου καὶ ἐξ ᾄδου ἐν λόγῳ ὑψίστου· ὁ καταγαγὼν βασιλεῖς εἰς ἀπώλειαν, καὶ δεδοξασ-
- 7 μένους ἀπὸ κλίνης αὐτῶν· ὁ ἀκούων ἐν Σινᾷ ἔλεγμον, καὶ ἐν Χωρήβ κρίματα ἐκδικήσεως· ὁ χρίων βασιλεῖς εἰς ἀνταπό-
- 9 δομα, καὶ προφήτας διαδόχους μετ' αὐτόν· ὁ ἀναληφθεὶς ἐν
- 10 λαίλαπι πυρὸς ἐν ἄρματι ἵππων πυρίνων· ὁ καταγραφεὶς ἐν ἐλεγμοῖς εἰς καιροὺς, κοπάσαι ὀργὴν πρὸ θυμοῦ, καὶ ἐπιστρέψαι καρδίαν πατρὸς πρὸς υἱόν, καὶ καταστήσαι φυλάς
- 11 Ἰακώβ. Μακάριοι οἱ ἰδόντες σε, καὶ οἱ ἐν ἀγαπήσει κεκοσμημένοι· καὶ γὰρ ἡμεῖς ζωῇ ζήσομεθα.
- 12 Ἡλίας, ὃς ἐν λαίλαπι ἐσκεπάσθη· καὶ Ἐλισαίῃ ἐνεπλήσθη πνεύματος αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐν ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἐσάλεύθη ὑπὸ
- 13 ἄρχοντος, καὶ οὐ κατεδυνάστευσεν αὐτὸν οὐδεὶς. Πᾶς λόγος οὐχ ὑπερῆρεν αὐτόν, καὶ ἐν κοιμήσει ἐπροφήτευσεν τὸ σῶμα αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐν ζωῇ αὐτοῦ ἐποίησε τέρατα, καὶ ἐν τελευτῇ θαυμάσια τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ.
- 15 Ἐν πᾶσι τούτοις οὐ μετενόησεν ὁ λαὸς, καὶ οὐκ ἀπέστησαν ἀπὸ τῶν ἀμαρτιῶν, ἕως ἐπρονομεύθησαν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς

able time, and was honoured; for God made all quiet round about him, that he might build an house in his name, and prepare his sanctuary for ever. ¹⁴ How wise wast thou in thy youth, and, as a flood, filled with understanding! ¹⁵ Thy soul covered the whole earth, and thou filledest it with dark parables.

¹⁶ Thy name went far unto the islands; and for thy peace thou wast beloved. ¹⁷ The countries marvelled at thee for thy songs, and proverbs, and parables, and interpretations. ¹⁸ By the name of the Lord God, which is called the Lord God of Israel, thou didst gather gold as tin, and didst multiply silver as lead. ¹⁹ Thou didst bow thy loins unto women, and by thy body thou wast brought into subjection. ²⁰ Thou didst stain thy honour, and pollute thy seed: so that thou broughtest wrath upon thy children, and wast grieved for thy folly. ²¹ So the kingdom was divided, and out of Ephraim ruled a rebellious kingdom.

²² But the Lord will never leave off his mercy, neither shall any of his works perish, neither will he abolish the posterity of his elect, and the seed of him that loveth him he will not take away: wherefore he gave a remnant unto Jacob, and out of him a root unto David.

²³ Thus rested Solomon with his fathers, and of his seed he left behind him Roboam, even the foolishness of the people, and one that had no understanding, who turned away the people through his counsel. There was also Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who caused Israel to sin, and shewed Ephraim the way of sin: ²⁴ and their sins were multiplied exceedingly, that they were driven out of the land. ²⁵ For they sought out all wickedness, till the vengeance came upon them.

Then stood up Elias the prophet as fire, and his word burned like a lamp. ² He brought a sore famine upon them, and by his zeal he diminished their number. ³ By the word of the Lord he shut up the heaven, and also three times brought down fire. ⁴ O Elias, how wast thou honoured in thy wondrous deeds! and who may glory like unto thee! ⁵ Who didst raise up a dead man from death, and his soul from the place of the dead, by the word of the most High: ⁶ who broughtest kings to destruction, and honourable men from their bed: ⁷ who heardest the rebuke of the Lord in Sinai, and in Horeb the judgment of vengeance: ⁸ who anointedst kings to take revenge, and prophets to succeed after him: ⁹ who wast taken up in a whirlwind of fire, and in a chariot of fiery horses: ¹⁰ who wast ordained for reproofs in their times, to pacify the wrath of the Lord's judgment, before it brake forth into fury, and to turn the heart of the father unto the son, and to restore the tribes of Jacob. ¹¹ Blessed are they that saw thee, and slept in love; for we shall surely live.

¹² Elias it was, who was covered with a whirlwind; and Eliseus was filled with his spirit: whilst he lived, he was not moved *with the presence* of any prince, neither could any bring him into subjection. ¹³ No word could overcome him; and after his death his body prophesied. ¹⁴ He did wonders in his life, and at his death were his works marvellous.

¹⁵ For all this the people repented not, neither departed they from their sins, till they were

spoiled and carried out of their land, and were scattered through all the earth: yet there remained a small people, and a ruler in the house of David: ¹⁶ of whom some did that which was pleasing to God, and some multiplied sins.

¹⁷ Ezekias fortified his city, and brought in water into the midst thereof: he digged the hard rock with iron, and made wells for waters. ¹⁸ In his time Sennacherib came up, and sent Rabsaces, and lifted up his hand against Sion, and boasted proudly. ¹⁹ Then trembled their hearts and hands, and they were in pain, as women in travail.

²⁰ But they called upon the Lord who is merciful, and stretched out their hands toward him: and immediately the Holy One heard them out of heaven, and delivered them by the ministry of Esay. ²¹ He smote the host of the Assyrians, and his angel destroyed them. ²² For Ezekias had done the thing that pleased the Lord, and was strong in the ways of David his father, as Esay the prophet, who was great and faithful in his vision, had commanded him. ²³ In his time the sun went backward, and he lengthened the king's life. ²⁴ He saw by an excellent spirit what should come to pass at the last, and he comforted them that mourned in Sion. ²⁵ He shewed what should come to pass for ever, and secret things or ever they came.

The remembrance of Josias is like the composition of the perfume that is made by the art of the apothecary: it is sweet as honey in all mouths, and as music at a banquet of wine. ² He behaved himself uprightly in the conversion of the people, and took away the abominations of iniquity. ³ He directed his heart unto the Lord, and in the time of the ungodly he established the worship of God. ⁴ All, except David and Ezekias and Josias, were defective: for they forsook the law of the most High, even the kings of Juda failed; ⁵ for they gave their power unto others, and their glory to a strange nation.

⁶ They burnt the chosen city of the sanctuary, and made the streets desolate, according to the prophecy of Jeremias. ⁷ For they entreated him evil, who nevertheless was a prophet, sanctified in his mother's womb, that he might root out, and afflict, and destroy; and that he might build up also, and plant. ⁸ It was Ezekiel who saw the glorious vision, which was shewed him upon the chariot of the cherubim. ⁹ For he made mention of the enemies under the figure of the rain, and directed them that went right. ¹⁰ And of the twelve prophets let the memorial be blessed, and let their bones flourish again out of their place: for they comforted Jacob, and delivered them by assured hope. ¹¹ How shall we magnify Zorobabel? he was even as a signet on the right hand:

¹² So was Jesus the son of Josedec: who in their time builded the house, and set up an holy temple to the Lord, which was prepared for everlasting glory. ¹³ And among the elect was Neemias, whose renown is great, who raised up for us the walls that were fallen, and set up the gates and the bars, and raised up our ruins again. ¹⁴ But upon the earth was no man created like Enoch; for he was taken from the earth. ¹⁵ Neither was there a man born like unto Joseph, a governor of his brethren, a stay of the people, whose bones were regarded of the Lord. ¹⁶ Sem and Seth were in great honour among men, and so was Adam above every living thing in the creation.

αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐσκορπίσθησαν ἐν πάσῃ τῇ γῇ· καὶ κατελείφθη ὁ λαὸς ὀλιγοστος, καὶ ἄρχων τῷ οἴκῳ Δαυίδ. Τινὲς μὲν ¹⁶ αὐτῶν ἐποίησαν τὸ ἀρεστὸν, τινὲς δὲ ἐπλήθυναν ἁμαρτίας.

Ἐζεκίας ὠχύρωσε τὴν πόλιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἰσήγαγεν εἰς μέσον ¹⁷ αὐτῶν τὸν Γῶγ· ὠρυξε σιδήρῳ ἀκρότομον, καὶ ψκοδόμησε κρήνας εἰς ὕδατα. Ἐν ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ ἀνέβη Σενναχηρίμ, ¹⁸ καὶ ἀπέστειλε Ῥαψάκην, καὶ ἀπῆρε· καὶ ἐπῆρεν ἡ χεὶρ αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ Σιών, καὶ ἐμεγαλαύχησεν ὑπερηφανία αὐτοῦ. Τότε ἔσαλεύθησαν καρδιαὶ καὶ χεῖρες αὐτῶν, καὶ ὠδίνησαν ὡς αἱ τίκτουσαι. ¹⁹

Καὶ ἐπεκαλέσαντο τὸν Κύριον τὸν ἐλεήμονα, ἐκπετάσαντες ²⁰ τὰς χεῖρας αὐτῶν πρὸς αὐτόν· καὶ ὁ ἅγιος ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ταχὺ ἐπήκουσεν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐλυτρώσατο αὐτοὺς ἐν χειρὶ Ἡσαίου. Ἐπάταξε τὴν παρεμβολὴν τῶν Ἀσσυρίων, καὶ ἐξέτριψεν ²¹ αὐτοὺς ὁ ἄγγελος αὐτοῦ. Ἐποίησε γὰρ Ἐζεκίας τὸ ἀρεστὸν ²² Κυρίῳ, καὶ ἐνίσχυσεν ἐν ὁδοῖς Δαυὶδ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, ὡς ἐνετείλατο Ἡσαΐας ὁ προφήτης ὁ μέγας, καὶ πιστὸς ἐν ὁράσει αὐτοῦ. Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ ἀνεπόδισεν ὁ ἥλιος, ²³ καὶ προσέθηκε ζωὴν βασιλεῖ. Πνεύματι μεγάλῳ εἶδε τὰ ²⁴ ἔσχατα, καὶ παρεκάλεσε τοὺς πενθοῦντας ἐν Σιών. Ἔως ²⁵ τοῦ αἰῶνος ὑπέδειξε τὰ ἐσόμενα, καὶ τὰ ἀπόκρυφα πρὶν ἢ παραγενέσθαι αὐτά.

Μνημόσυνον Ἰωσίου εἰς σύνθεσιν θυμιάματος, ἐσκενασ- ⁴⁹ μένον ἔργῳ μυρεψοῦ, ἐν παντὶ στόματι ὡς μέλι γλυκανθήσεται, καὶ ὡς μουσικὰ ἐν συμποσίῳ οἴνου. Αὐτὸς κατε- ² θύνθη ἐν ἐπιστροφῇ λαοῦ, καὶ ἐξῆρε βδελύγματα ἀνομίας. Κατεύθυνε πρὸς Κύριον τὴν καρδίαν αὐτοῦ, ἐν ἡμέραις ³ ἀνόμων κατίσχυσε τὴν εὐσέβειαν. Πάρεξ Δαυίδ, καὶ Ἐξε- ⁴ κίου, καὶ Ἰωσίου, πάντες πλημμέλειαν ἐπλημμέλησαν· κατέλιπον γὰρ τὸν νόμον τοῦ ὑψίστου, οἱ βασιλεῖς Ἰούδα ἐξέλιπον. Ἐδωκαν γὰρ τὸ κέρας αὐτῶν ἐτέροις, καὶ τὴν ⁵ δόξαν αὐτῶν ἔθνεϊ ἁλλοτρίῳ.

Ἐνεπύρισαν ἐκλεκτὴν πόλιν ἀγιάσματος, καὶ ἡρήμωσαν ⁶ τὰς ὁδοὺς αὐτῆς ἐν χειρὶ Ἰερεμίου. Ἐκάκωσαν γὰρ αὐτόν, ⁷ καὶ αὐτὸς ἐν μήτρᾳ ἡγιάσθη προφήτης ἐκριζοῦν καὶ κακοῦν καὶ ἀπολλύειν, ὡσαύτως οἰκοδομεῖν καὶ καταφυτεύειν. Ἰεζεκιήλ ὃς εἶδεν ὄρασιν δόξης, ἣν ὑπέδειξεν αὐτῷ ἐπὶ ⁸ ἄρματος χερουβίμ. Καὶ γὰρ ἐμνήσθη τῶν ἐχθρῶν ἐν ⁹ ὄμβρῳ, καὶ ἀγαθῶσαι τοὺς εὐθύνοντας ὁδοὺς. Καὶ τῶν ¹⁰ δώδεκα προφητῶν τὰ ὁστὰ ἀναθάλοι ἐκ τοῦ τόπου αὐτῶν· παρεκάλεσε δὲ τὸν Ἰακώβ, καὶ ἐλυτρώσατο αὐτοὺς ἐν πίστει ἐλπίδος. Πῶς μεγαλύνωμεν τὸν Ζοροβάβελ; καὶ αὐτὸς ὡς ¹¹ σφραγὶς ἐπὶ δεξιᾷ χειρός.

Οὕτως Ἰησοῦς υἱὸς Ἰωσεδέκ· οἱ ἐν ἡμέραις αὐτῶν ὠκοδό- ¹² μησαν οἶκον, καὶ ἀνύψωσαν λαὸν ἅγιον Κυρίῳ ἡτοιμασμένον εἰς δόξαν αἰῶνος. Καὶ Νεεμίου ἐπὶ πολὺ τὸ μνημό- ¹³ σνον, τοῦ ἐγείραντος ἡμῖν τείχη πεπτωκότα, καὶ στήσαντος πύλας καὶ μοχλοὺς, καὶ ἀνεγείραντος τὰ οἰκόπεδα ἡμῶν. Οὐδὲ εἰς ἐκτίσθη οἶος Ἐνὼχ τοιοῦτος ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ γὰρ ¹⁴ αὐτὸς ἀνελήφθη ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς. Οὐδὲ ὡς Ἰωσήφ ἐγεννήθη ¹⁵ ἀνὴρ, ἡγούμενος ἀδελφῶν, στήριγμα λαοῦ, καὶ τὰ ὁστὰ αὐτοῦ ἐπεσκέπησαν. Σῆμ καὶ Σῆθ ἐν ἀνθρώποις ἐδοξάσ- ¹⁶ θησαν, καὶ ὑπὲρ πάντων ζῶων ἐν τῇ κτίσει Ἀδάμ.

- 50 Σίμων Ὀνίου υἱὸς ἱερέως ὁ μέγας, ὃς ἐν ζωῇ αὐτοῦ ὑπέρ-
 2 ῥαψεν οἶκον, καὶ ἐν ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ ἐστερέωσε τὸν ναόν· καὶ
 ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐθεμελιώθη ὕψος διπλῆς ἀνάλημμα ὑψηλὸν περι-
 3 βόλου ἱεροῦ. Ἐν ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ ἡλαττώθη ἀποδοχεῖον
 4 ὑδάτων, χαλκὸς ὡσεὶ θαλάσσης τὸ περίμετρον· ὁ φροντίζων
 τοῦ λαοῦ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ πτώσεως, καὶ ἐνισχύσας πόλιν ἐμπολιορ-
 5 κῆσαι, ὡς ἐδοξάσθη ἐν περιστροφῇ λαοῦ, ἐν ἐξόδῳ οἴκου
 6 καταπετάσματος· ὡς ἀστὴρ ἑωθινὸς ἐν μέσῳ νεφέλης, ὡς
 7 σελήνη πλήρης ἐν ἡμέραις· ὡς ἥλιος ἐκλάμπων ἐπὶ ναὸν
 8 ὑψίστου, καὶ ὡς τόξον φωτίζον ἐν νεφέλαις δόξης· ὡς ἄνθος
 9 βλαστὸς Λιβάνου ἐν ἡμέραις θέρους, ὡς πῦρ καὶ λίβανος
 ἐπὶ πυρεῖον· ὡς σκεῦος χρυσοῦ ὁλοσφύρητον κεκοσμημένον
 10 παντὶ λίθῳ πολυτελεῖ· ὡς ἐλαία ἀναθάλλουσα καρπούς, καὶ
 ὡς κυπάρισσος ὑψουμένη ἐν νεφέλαις.
 11 Ἐν τῷ ἀναλαμβάνειν αὐτὸν στολὴν δόξης, καὶ ἐνδιδύ-
 σκεσθαι αὐτὸν συντέλειαν καυχήματος, ἐν ἀναβάσει θυσιασ-
 12 τηρίου ἁγίου ἐδόξασε περιβολὴν ἁγιάσματος. Ἐν δὲ τῷ
 δέχεσθαι μέλη ἐκ χειρῶν ἱερέων, καὶ αὐτὸς ἐστὼς παρ'
 ἐσχάρα βωμοῦ, κυκλόθεν αὐτοῦ στέφανος ἀδελφῶν, ὡς
 13 βλάστημα κέδρου ἐν τῷ λιβάνῳ· καὶ ἐκύκλωσαν αὐτὸν ὡς
 14 στελέχη φοινίκων, καὶ πάντες οἱ υἱοὶ Ἀαρὼν ἐν δόξῃ αὐτῶν·
 καὶ προσφορά Κυρίου ἐν χερσὶν αὐτῶν ἔναντι πάσης ἐκκλη-
 15 σίας Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ συντέλειαν λειτουργῶν ἐπὶ βωμῶν,
 16 κοσμήσαι προσφορὰν ὑψίστου παντοκράτορος, ἐξέτεινεν ἐπὶ
 σπονδείου χεῖρα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔσπεισεν ἐξ αἵματος σταφυλῆς·
 ἐξέχεεν εἰς θεμέλια θυσιαστηρίου ὁσμὴν εὐωδίας ὑψίστῳ
 παμβασιλεῖ.
 16 Τότε ἀνέκραγον υἱοὶ Ἀαρὼν, ἐν σάλπιγξιν ἐλαταῖς
 ἤχησαν· ἀκουστὴν ἐποίησαν φωνὴν μεγάλην εἰς μνημό-
 17 συνον ἔναντι ὑψίστου. Τότε πᾶς ὁ λαὸς κοινῇ κατέσπενσε,
 καὶ ἔπεσαν ἐπὶ πρόσωπον ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, προσκυνῆσαι τῷ
 18 Κυρίῳ αὐτῶν παντοκράτορι Θεῷ τῷ ὑψίστῳ. Καὶ ἤνεσαν
 οἱ ψαλμῳδοὶ ἐν φωναῖς αὐτῶν, ἐν πλείστῳ οἴκῳ ἐγλυκάνθη
 19 μέλος. Καὶ ἐδεήθη ὁ λαὸς Κυρίου ὑψίστου ἐν προσευχῇ
 κατέναντι ἐλεήμονος, ἕως συντελεσθῇ κόσμος Κυρίου, καὶ
 τὴν λειτουργίαν αὐτοῦ ἐτελείωσαν.
 20 Τότε καταβὰς ἐπῆρε χεῖρας αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ πᾶσαν ἐκκλησίαν
 υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ, δοῦναι εὐλογίαν Κυρίῳ ἐν χειλέων αὐτοῦ, καὶ
 21 ἐν ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ καυχᾶσθαι. Καὶ ἐδεντέρωσεν ἐν προσκυ-
 22 νήσει ἐπιδείξασθαι τὴν εὐλογίαν παρὰ ὑψίστου. Καὶ νῦν
 εὐλογήσατε τῷ Θεῷ πάντες τῷ μεγαλοποιῶντι πάντη, τὸν
 ὑψοῦντα ἡμέρας ἡμῶν ἐκ μήτρας, καὶ ποιῶντα μεθ' ἡμῶν
 23 κατὰ τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ. Δφῇ ἡμῖν εὐφροσύνην καρδίας, καὶ
 γενέσθαι εἰρήνην ἐν ἡμέραις ἡμῶν ἐν Ἰσραὴλ κατὰ τὰς
 24 ἡμέρας τοῦ αἰῶνος, ἐμπιστεῦσαι μεθ' ἡμῶν τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ,
 καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ λυτρωσάσθω ἡμᾶς.
 25 Ἐν δυσὶν ἔθνεσι προσώχθισεν ἡ ψυχὴ μου, καὶ τὸ τρίτον
 26 οὐκ ἔστιν ἔθνος. Οἱ καθήμενοι ἐν ὄρει Σαμαρείας, Φυλισ-
 τιεῖμ καὶ ὁ λαὸς μωρὸς ὁ κατοικῶν ἐν Σικίμοις.
 27 Παιδείαν συνέσεως καὶ ἐπιστήμης ἐχάραξε ἐν τῷ βιβλίῳ,
 τούτῳ, Ἰησοῦς υἱὸς Σειράχ Ἱεροσολυμίτης, ὃς ἀνώμβρησε

Simon the high priest, the son of Onias, who in his life repaired the house again, and in his days fortified the temple: ² and by him was built from the foundation the double height, the high fortress of the wall about the temple: ³ in his days the cistern to receive water, being in compass as the sea, was covered with plates of brass: ⁴ he took care of the temple that it should not fall, and fortified the city against besieging: ⁵ how was he honoured in the midst of the people in his coming out of the sanctuary! ⁶ He was as the morning star in the midst of a cloud, and as the moon at the full: ⁷ as the sun shining upon the temple of the most High, and as the rainbow giving light in the bright clouds: ⁸ and as the flower of roses in the spring of the year, as lilies by the rivers of waters, and as the branches of the frankincense tree in the time of summer: ⁹ as fire and incense in the censer, and as a vessel of beaten gold set with all manner of precious stones: ¹⁰ and as a fair olive tree budding forth fruit, and as a cypress tree which groweth up to the clouds.

¹¹ When he put on the robe of honour, and was clothed with the perfection of glory, when he went up to the holy altar, he made the garment of holiness honourable. ¹² When he took the portions out of the priests' hands, he himself stood by the hearth of the altar, compassed with his brethren round about, as a young cedar in Libanus; and as palm trees compassed they him round about. ¹³ So were all the sons of Aaron in their glory, and the oblations of the Lord in their hands, before all the congregation of Israel. ¹⁴ And finishing the service at the altar, that he might adorn the offering of the most high Almighty, he stretched out his hand to the cup, and poured of the blood of the grape, he poured out at the foot of the altar a sweet-smelling savour unto the most high King of all.

¹⁶ Then shouted the sons of Aaron, and sounded the silver trumpets, and made a great noise (to be heard, for a remembrance before the most High. ¹⁷ Then all the people together hastened, and fell down to the earth upon their faces to worship their Lord God Almighty, the most High. ¹⁸ The singers also sang praises with their voices, with great variety of sounds was there made sweet melody. ¹⁹ And the people besought the Lord, the most High, by prayer before him that is merciful, till the solemnity of the Lord was ended, and they had finished his service.

²⁰ Then he went down, and lifted up his hands over the whole congregation of the children of Israel, to give the blessing of the Lord with his lips, and to rejoice in his name. ²¹ And they bowed themselves down to worship the second time, that they might receive a blessing from the most High. ²² Now therefore bless ye the God of all, which only doeth wondrous things every where, which exalteth our days from the womb, and dealeth with us according to his mercy. ²³ He grant us joyfulness of heart, and that peace may be in our days in Israel for ever: ²⁴ that he would confirm his mercy with us, and deliver us at his time!

²⁵ There be two manner of nations which my heart abhorreth, and the third is no nation: ²⁶ they that sit upon the mountain of Samaria, and they that dwell among the Philistines, and that foolish people that dwell in Sichem.

²⁷ Jesus the son of Sirach of Jerusalem hath written in this book the instruction of under-

standing and knowledge, who out of his heart poured forth wisdom. ²⁸ Blessed is he that shall be exercised in these things: and he that layeth them up in his heart shall become wise. ²⁹ For if he do them, he shall be strong to all things: for the light of the Lord is his path.

I will thank thee, O Lord and King, and praise thee, O God my Saviour: I do give praise unto thy name: ² for thou art my defender and helper, and hast preserved my body from destruction, and from the snare of the slanderous tongue, and from the lips that forge lies, and hast been mine helper against mine adversaries: ³ and hast delivered me, according to the multitude of thy mercies and greatness of thy name, from the teeth of them that were ready to devour me, and out of the hands of such as sought after my life, and from the manifold afflictions which I had; ⁴ from the choking of fire on every side, and from the midst of the fire which I kindled not; ⁵ from the depth of the belly of hell, from an unclean tongue, and from lying words.

⁶ By an accusation to the king from an unrighteous tongue my soul drew near even unto death, my life was near to the hell beneath. ⁷ They compassed me on every side, and there was no man to help me: I looked for the succour of men, but there was none. ⁸ Then thought I upon thy mercy, O Lord, and upon thy acts of old, how thou deliverest such as wait for thee, and savest them out of the hands of the enemies. ⁹ Then lifted I up my supplication from the earth, and prayed for deliverance from death. ¹⁰ I called upon the Lord, the Father of my Lord, that he would not leave me in the days of my trouble, and in the time of the proud, when there was no help. ¹¹ I will praise thy name continually, and will sing praise with thanksgiving; and so my prayer was heard: ¹² for thou savedst me from destruction, and deliveredst me from the evil time: therefore will I give thanks, and praise thee, and bless thy name, O Lord.

¹³ When I was yet young, or ever I went abroad, I desired wisdom openly in my prayer. ¹⁴ I prayed for her before the temple, and will seek her out even to the end. ¹⁵ Even from the flower till the grape was ripe hath my heart delighted in her: my foot went the right way, from my youth up sought I after her. ¹⁶ I bowed down mine ear a little, and received her, and gat much learning. ¹⁷ I profited therein, therefore will I ascribe the glory unto him that giveth me wisdom. ¹⁸ For I purposed to do after her, and earnestly I followed that which is good; so shall I not be confounded.

¹⁹ My soul hath wrestled with her, and in my doings I was exact: I stretched forth my hands to the heaven above, and bewailed my ignorances of her. ²⁰ I directed my soul unto her, and I found her in pureness: I have had my heart joined with her from the beginning, therefore shall I not be forsaken. ²¹ My heart was troubled in seeking her: therefore have I gotten a good possession. ²² The Lord hath given me a tongue for my reward, and I will praise him therewith.

²³ Draw near unto me, ye unlearned, and dwell in the house of learning. ²⁴ Wherefore are ye slow, and what say ye of these things, seeing your souls are very thirsty? ²⁵ I opened

σοφίαν ἀπὸ καρδίας αὐτοῦ. Μακάριος ὃς ἐν τούτοις ἀνα- 28
στραφήσεται, καὶ ὁ θεὸς αὐτὰ ἐπὶ καρδίαν αὐτοῦ σοφισθή-
σεται. Ἐὰν γὰρ αὐτὰ ποιήσῃ, πρὸς πάντα ἰσχύσει, ὅτι 29
φῶς Κυρίου τὸ ἵχνος αὐτοῦ.

ΠΡΟΣΕΥΧΗ ἸΗΣΟΥ ΥΙΟΥ ΣΕΙΡΑΧ.

Ἐξομολογήσομαι σοι Κύριε βασιλεῦ, καὶ αἰνέσω σε Θεὸν 51
τὸν σωτήρά μου· ἐξομολογοῦμαι τῷ ὀνόματί σου, ὅτι 2
σκεπαστὴς καὶ βοηθὸς ἐγένου μοι, καὶ ἐλυτρώσω τὸ σῶμά
μου ἐξ ἀπωλείας, καὶ ἐκ παγίδος διαβολῆς γλώσσης· ἀπὸ
χειλέων ἐργαζομένων ψεύδος, καὶ ἔναντι τῶν παρεστηκότων
ἐγένου μοι βοηθὸς, καὶ ἐλυτρώσω με, κατὰ τὸ πλήθος ἐλέους 3
καὶ ὀνόματός σου, ἐκ βρυγμῶν ἐτοιμῶν εἰς βρῶμα, ἐκ χειρὸς
ζητούντων τὴν ψυχὴν μου, ἐκ πλειόνων θλίψεων ὧν ἔσχον,
ἀπὸ πνιγμοῦ πυρὸς κυκλόθεν, καὶ ἐκ μέσου πυρὸς οὗ οὐκ 4
ἐξέκαυσα, ἐκ βάθους κοιλίας ἄδου, καὶ ἀπὸ γλώσσης ἀκα- 5
θάρτου, καὶ λόγου ψευδοῦς.

Βασιλεῖ διαβολὴ γλώσσης ἀδίκου· ἤγγισεν ἕως θανάτου 6
ἡ ψυχὴ μου, καὶ ἡ ζωὴ μου ἦν σύνεγγυς ἄδου κάτω.
Περίεσχον με πάντοθεν, καὶ οὐκ ἦν ὁ βοηθῶν· ἐμβλέπων 7
εἰς ἀντίληψιν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ οὐκ ἦν. Καὶ ἐμνήσθην τοῦ 8
ἐλέους σου Κύριε, καὶ τῆς ἐργασίας σου τῆς ἀπ' αἰῶνος· ὅτι
ἐξελητὸν τοὺς ὑπομένοντάς σε, καὶ σώζεις αὐτοὺς ἐκ χειρὸς
ἐθνῶν. Καὶ ἀνύψωσα ἐπὶ γῆς ἱκετείαν μου, καὶ ὑπὲρ θανά- 9
του ῥύσεως ἐδεήθην. Ἐπεκαλεσάμην Κύριον πατέρα Κυ- 10
ρίου μου, μὴ με ἐγκαταλιπεῖν ἐν ἡμέραις θλίψεως, ἐν καιρῷ
ὑπερηφάνων ἀβοηθησίας. Αἰνέσω τὸ ὄνομά σου ἐνδεδελεχώς, 11
καὶ ὑμνήσω ἐν ἐξομολογήσει· καὶ εἰσηκούσθη ἡ δέησίς μου.
Ἔσωσας γὰρ με ἐξ ἀπωλείας, καὶ ἐξέιλου με ἐκ καιροῦ 12
πονηροῦ· διὰ τοῦτο ἐξομολογήσομαι καὶ αἰνέσω σοι, καὶ
εὐλογήσω τῷ ὀνόματι Κυρίου·

Ἔτι ὧν νεώτερος, πρηνὴ πλανηθῆναί με, ἐζήτησα σοφίαν 13
προφανῶς ἐν προσευχῇ μου. Ἐναντι ναοῦ ἡξίου περὶ 14
αὐτῆς, καὶ ἕως ἐσχάτων ἐκζητήσω αὐτήν, ἐξ ἄνθους ὡς 15
περκαζούσης σταφυλῆς· εὐφράνθη ἡ καρδία μου ἐν αὐτῇ,
ἐπέβη ὁ πούς μου ἐν εὐθύτητι, ἐκ νεότητός μου ἔχνευσα
αὐτήν. Ἐκλινά ὀλίγον τὸ οὖς μου, καὶ ἐδεξάμην, καὶ 16
πολλὴν εὐρον ἐμαυτῷ παιδείαν. Προκοπὴ ἐγένετό μοι ἐν 17
αὐτῇ· τῷ διδόντι μοι σοφίαν, δώσω δόξαν. Διανοήθην γὰρ 18
τοῦ ποιῆσαι αὐτήν, καὶ ἐζήλωσα τὸ ἀγαθόν, καὶ οὐ μὴ
αἰσχυρθῶ.

Διαμεμάχεται ἡ ψυχὴ μου ἐν αὐτῇ, καὶ ἐν ποιήσει λιμοῦ 19
διηκριβωσάμην· τὰς χεῖράς μου ἐξέπεται πρὸς ὕψος, καὶ
τὰ ἀγνοήματα αὐτῆς ἐπένθησα, τὴν ψυχὴν μου κατεύθυνα 20
εἰς αὐτήν, καρδίαν ἐκτησάμην μετ' αὐτῶν ἀπ' ἀρχῆς, καὶ ἐν
καθαρισμῷ εὐρον αὐτήν· διὰ τοῦτο οὐ μὴ ἐγκαταλειφθῶ.
Καὶ ἡ κοιλία μου ἐταράχθη ἐκζητῆσαι αὐτήν· διὰ τοῦτο 21
ἐκτησάμην ἀγαθὸν κτήμα. Ἐδωκε Κύριος γλώσσάν μοι 22
μισθόν μου, καὶ ἐν αὐτῇ αἰνέσω αὐτόν.

Ἐγγίσατε πρὸς με ἀπαίδευτοι, καὶ αὐλίσθητε ἐν οἴκῳ 23
παιδείας. Διότι ὑστερεῖτε ἐν τούτοις, καὶ αἱ ψυχαὶ ὑμῶν 24
διψῶσι σφόδρα; Ἦνοιξα τὸ στόμα μου, καὶ ἐλάλησα, 25

- 26 κτήσασθε ἑαυτοῖς ἄνευ ἀργυρίου. Τὸν τράχηλον ὑμῶν
ὑπόθετε ὑπὸ ζυγόν, καὶ ἐπιδεξάσθω ἡ ψυχὴ ὑμῶν παιδείαν,
27 ἐγγύς ἐστιν εὐρεῖν αὐτήν. Ἴδετε ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ὑμῶν ὅτι
ὀλίγον ἐκοπίασα, καὶ εὖρον ἑμαυτῷ πολλὴν ἀνάπαιυσιν.
28 Μετάσχετε παιδείας ἐν πολλῷ ἀριθμῷ ἀργυρίου, καὶ πολὺν
χρυσὸν κτήσασθε ἐν αὐτῇ.
29 Εὐφρανθεῖη ἡ ψυχὴ ὑμῶν ἐν τῷ ἐλέει αὐτοῦ, καὶ μὴ
30 αἰσχνυθεῖητε ἐν αἰνέσει αὐτοῦ. Ἐργάζεσθε τὸ ἔργον ὑμῶν
πρὸ καιροῦ, καὶ δώσει τὸν μισθὸν ὑμῶν ἐν καιρῷ αὐτοῦ.

my mouth, and said, Buy her for yourselves without money. ²⁶ Put your neck under the yoke, and let your soul receive instruction: she is hard at hand to find. ²⁷ Behold with your eyes, how that I have had but little labour, and have gotten unto me much rest. ²⁸ Get learning with a great sum of money, and get much gold by her.

²⁹ Let your soul rejoice in his mercy, and be not ashamed of his praise. ³⁰ Work your work betimes, and in his time he will give you your reward.

BAPOYX.

- ΚΑΙ οὗτοι οἱ λόγοι τοῦ βιβλίου, οὓς ἔγραψε Βαροὺχ υἱὸς
Νηρίου, υἱοῦ Μασαίου, υἱοῦ Σεδεκίου, υἱοῦ Ἀσαδίου, υἱοῦ
2 Χελκίου ἐν Βαβυλῶνι, ἐν τῷ ἔτει τῷ πέμπτῳ, ἐν ἑβδόμῃ
τοῦ μηνὸς, ἐν τῷ καιρῷ ᾧ ἔλαβον οἱ Χαλδαῖοι τὴν Ἱερου-
σαλήμ, καὶ ἐνέπρησαν αὐτήν ἐν πυρί.
3 Καὶ ἀνέγνω Βαροὺχ τοὺς λόγους τοῦ βιβλίου τούτου ἐν
ὧσιν Ἰερονίου υἱοῦ Ἰωακείμ βασιλέως Ἰούδα, καὶ ἐν ὧσιν
4 παντὸς τοῦ λαοῦ τῶν ἐρχομένων πρὸς τὴν βίβλον, καὶ ἐν
ὧσιν τῶν δυνατῶν, καὶ υἱῶν τῶν βασιλέων, καὶ ἐν ὧσιν τῶν
πρεσβυτέρων, καὶ ἐν ὧσιν παντὸς τοῦ λαοῦ, ἀπὸ μικροῦ ἕως
μεγάλου, πάντων τῶν κατοικούντων ἐν Βαβυλῶνι ἐπὶ ποτα-
5 μῷ Σούδ. Καὶ ἔκλαιον, καὶ ἐνήστευον, καὶ ἤρχοντο ἐναν-
τίον Κυρίου.
6 Καὶ συνήγαγον ἀργύριον, καθὼς ἐκάστου ἡδύνατο ἡ χεὶρ,
7 καὶ ἀπέστειλαν εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ πρὸς Ἰωακείμ υἱὸν Χελκίου,
υἱοῦ Σαλώμ, τὸν ἱερέα, καὶ πρὸς τοὺς ἱερεῖς, καὶ πρὸς πάντα
8 τὸν λαὸν, τοὺς εὐρεθέντας μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐν Ἱερουσαλήμ, ἐν τῷ
λαβεῖν αὐτὸν τὰ σκεύη οἴκου Κυρίου, τὰ ἐξεनेχθέντα ἐκ τοῦ
ναοῦ, ἀποστρέψαι εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα, τῇ δεκάτῃ τοῦ Σειουὰλ,
σκεύη ἀργυρᾶ, ἃ ἐποίησε Σεδεκίας υἱὸς Ἰωσία βασιλεὺς
9 Ἰούδα, μετὰ τὸ ἀποικίσαι Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλέα Βαβυ-
λῶνος τὸν Ἰερονίαν, καὶ τοὺς ἄρχοντας, καὶ τοὺς δεσμώτας,
καὶ τοὺς δυνατοὺς, καὶ τὸν λαὸν τῆς γῆς ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλήμ,
καὶ ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα.
10 Καὶ εἶπαν, ἰδοὺ ἀπεστείλαμεν πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἀργύριον, καὶ
ἀγοράσατε τοῦ ἀργυρίου ὀλοκαυτώματα, καὶ περὶ ἁμαρτίας,
καὶ λίβανον, καὶ ποιήσατε μάννα, καὶ ἀνοίσате ἐπὶ τὸ
11 θυσιαστήριον Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, καὶ προσεύξασθε
περὶ τῆς ζωῆς Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλέως Βαβυλῶνος, καὶ
εἰς ζωὴν Βαλτάσαρ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ, ἵνα ᾧσιν αἱ ἡμέραι αὐτῶν ὡς

AND these are the words of the book, which Baruch the son of Nerias, the son of Maasias, the son of Sedecias, the son of Asadiah, the son of Chelcias, wrote in Babylon, ² in the fifth year, and in the seventh day of the month, what time as the Chaldeans took Jerusalem, and burnt it with fire.

³ And Baruch did read the words of this book in the hearing of Jechonias the son of Joachim king of Juda, and in the ears of all the people that came to hear the book, ⁴ and in the hearing of the nobles, and of the king's sons, and in the hearing of the elders, and of all the people, from the lowest unto the highest, even of all them that dwelt at Babylon by the river Sud. ⁵ Whereupon they wept, fasted, and prayed before the Lord.

⁶ They made also a collection of money according to every man's power: ⁷ and they sent it to Jerusalem unto Joachim the high priest, the son of Chelcias, son of Salom, and to the priests, and to all the people which were found with him at Jerusalem, ⁸ at the same time when he received the vessels of the house of the Lord, that were carried out of the temple, to return them into the land of Juda, the tenth day of the month Sivan, namely, silver vessels, which Sedecias the son of Josias king of Juda had made, ⁹ after that Nabuchodonosor king of Babylon had carried away Jechonias, and the princes, and the captives, and the mighty men, and the people of the land, from Jerusalem, and brought them unto Babylon.

¹⁰ And they said, Behold, we have sent you money to buy you burnt offerings, and sin offerings, and incense, and prepare ye manna, and offer upon the altar of the Lord our God; ¹¹ and pray for the life of Nabuchodonosor king of Babylon, and for the life of Balthasar his son, that their days may be upon earth as

the days of heaven: ¹² and the Lord will give us strength, and lighten our eyes, and we shall live under the shadow of Nabuchodonosor king of Babylon, and under the shadow of Balthasar his son, and we shall serve them many days, and find favour in their sight.

¹³ Pray for us also unto the Lord our God, for we have sinned against the Lord our God; and unto this day the fury of the Lord and his wrath is not turned from us. ¹⁴ And ye shall read this book which we have sent unto you, to make confession in the house of the Lord, upon the feasts and solemn days.

¹⁵ And ye shall say, To the Lord our God *belongeth* righteousness, but unto us the confusion of faces, as *it is come to pass* this day, unto them of Juda, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, ¹⁶ and to our kings, and to our princes, and to our priests, and to our prophets, and to our fathers: ¹⁷ for we have sinned before the Lord, ¹⁸ and disobeyed him, and have not hearkened unto the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in the commandments that he gave us openly: ¹⁹ since the day that the Lord brought our forefathers out of the land of Egypt, unto this present day, we have been disobedient unto the Lord our God, and we have been negligent in not hearing his voice.

²⁰ Wherefore the evils cleaved unto us, and the curse, which the Lord appointed by Moses his servant at the time that he brought our fathers out of the land of Egypt, to give us a land that floweth with milk and honey, like as *it is to see* this day. ²¹ Nevertheless we have not hearkened unto the voice of the Lord our God, according unto all the words of the prophets, whom he sent unto us: ²² but every man followed the imagination of his own wicked heart, to serve strange gods, and to do evil in the sight of the Lord our God.

Therefore the Lord hath made good his word, which he pronounced against us, and against our judges that judged Israel, and against our kings, and against our princes, and against the men of Israel and Juda, ² to bring upon us great plagues, such as never happened under the whole heaven, as it came to pass in Jerusalem, according to the things that were written in the law of Moses; ³ that a man should eat the flesh of his own son, and the flesh of his own daughter. ⁴ Moreover he hath delivered them to be in subjection to all the kingdoms that are round about us, to be as a reproach and desolation among all the people round about, where the Lord hath scattered them.

⁵ Thus we were cast down, and not exalted, because we have sinned against the Lord our God, and have not been obedient unto his voice.

⁶ To the Lord our God *appertaineth* righteousness: but unto us and to our fathers open shame, as *appeareth* this day. ⁷ For all these plagues are come upon us, which the Lord hath pronounced against us. ⁸ Yet have we not prayed before the Lord, that we might turn every one from the imaginations of his wicked heart. ⁹ Wherefore the Lord watched over us for evil, and the Lord hath brought it upon us: for the Lord is righteous in all his works which he hath commanded us. ¹⁰ Yet we have not

αἱ ἡμέραι τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς. Καὶ δώσει Κύριος ¹² ἰσχύν ἡμῖν, καὶ φωτίσει τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἡμῶν, καὶ ζήσόμεθα ὑπὸ τὴν σκιὰν Ναβουχοδονόσορ βασιλέως Βαβυλῶνος, καὶ ὑπὸ τὴν σκιὰν Βαλτάσαρ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ, καὶ δουλεύσομεν αὐτοῖς ἡμέρας πολλὰς, καὶ εὐρήσομεν χάριν ἐναντίον αὐτῶν.

Καὶ προσεύξασθε περὶ ἡμῶν πρὸς Κύριον τὸν Θεὸν ἡμῶν, ¹³ ὅτι ἡμάρτομεν τῷ Κυρίῳ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, καὶ οὐκ ἀπέστρεψεν ὁ θυμὸς Κυρίου καὶ ἡ ὀργὴ αὐτοῦ ἀφ' ἡμῶν, ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης. Καὶ ἀναγνώσεσθε τὸ βιβλίον τοῦτο ὃ ἀπεστεί- ¹⁴ λαμεν πρὸς ὑμᾶς, ἐξαγορεύσαι ἐν οἴκῳ Κυρίου, ἐν ἡμέρᾳ ἐορτῆς, καὶ ἐν ἡμέραις καιροῦ,

Καὶ ἐρεῖτε, τῷ Κυρίῳ Θεῷ ἡμῶν ἡ δικαιοσύνη, ἡμῖν δὲ ¹⁵ αἰσχύνῃ τῶν προσώπων, ὡς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη, ἀνθρώπῳ Ἰούδα, καὶ τοῖς κατοικοῦσιν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ τοῖς βασιλεῦσιν ¹⁶ ἡμῶν, καὶ τοῖς ἄρχουσιν ἡμῶν, καὶ τοῖς ἱερεῦσιν ἡμῶν, καὶ τοῖς προφῆταις ἡμῶν, καὶ τοῖς πατράσιν ἡμῶν, ὧν ἡμάρ- ¹⁷ τομεν ἐναντὶ Κυρίου, καὶ ἠπειθήσαμεν αὐτῷ, καὶ οὐκ ¹⁸ ἠκούσαμεν τῆς φωνῆς Κυρίου Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, πορεύεσθαι τοῖς προστάγμασι Κυρίου, οἷς ἔδωκε κατὰ πρόσωπον ἡμῶν, ἀπὸ τῆς ἡμέρας ἧς ἐξήγαγε Κύριος τοὺς πατέρας ἡμῶν ἐκ ¹⁹ γῆς Αἰγύπτου· καὶ ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης ἡμεθα ἀπειθοῦντες πρὸς Κύριον Θεὸν ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐσχεδιάζομεν πρὸς τὸ μὴ ἀκούειν τῆς φωνῆς αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ ἐκολλήθη εἰς ἡμᾶς τὰ κακὰ, καὶ ἡ ἀρὰ ἦν συνέταξε ²⁰ Κύριος τῷ Μωσῇ παιδὶ αὐτοῦ, ἐν ἡμέρᾳ ἧς ἐξήγαγε τοὺς πατέρας ἡμῶν ἐκ γῆς Αἰγύπτου, δοῦναι ἡμῖν γῆν ῥέουσαν γάλα καὶ μέλι, ὡς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη. Καὶ οὐκ ἠκούσαμεν τῆς ²¹ φωνῆς Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, κατὰ πάντας τοὺς λόγους τῶν προφητῶν, ὧν ἀπέστειλε πρὸς ἡμᾶς. Καὶ ὠχόμεθα ἕκαστος ²² ἐν διανοίᾳ καρδίας αὐτοῦ τῆς πονηρᾶς, ἐργάζεσθαι θεοῖς ἑτέροις ποιῆσαι τὰ κακὰ κατ' ὀφθαλμοὺς Κυρίου Θεοῦ ἡμῶν.

Καὶ ἔστησε Κύριος τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ, ὃν ἐλάλησεν ἐφ' ² ἡμᾶς, καὶ ἐπὶ τοὺς δικαστὰς ἡμῶν, τοὺς δικάσαντας τὸν Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἐπὶ τοὺς βασιλεῖς ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐπὶ τοὺς ἄρχοντας ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐπὶ ἄνθρωπον Ἰσραὴλ καὶ Ἰούδα, τοῦ ἀγαγεῖν ² ἐφ' ἡμᾶς κακὰ μεγάλα, ἃ οὐκ ἐποιήθη ὑποκάτω παντὸς τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, καθὰ ἐποίησεν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, κατὰ τὰ γεγραμμένα ἐν τῷ νόμῳ Μωσῇ, τοῦ φαγεῖν ἡμᾶς, ἄνθρωπον ³ σάρκας υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἄνθρωπον σάρκας θυγατρὸς αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοὺς ὑποχειρίους πάσαις ταῖς βασιλείαις ταῖς ⁴ κύκλῳ ἡμῶν, εἰς ὀνειδισμόν, καὶ ἄβατον ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς λαοῖς τοῖς κύκλῳ, οὗ διέσπειρεν αὐτοὺς Κύριος ἐκεῖ.

Καὶ ἐγενήθησαν ὑποκάτω καὶ οὐκ ἐπάνω, ὅτι ἡμάρτομεν ⁵ Κυρίῳ Θεῷ ἡμῶν, πρὸς τὸ μὴ ἀκούειν τῆς φωνῆς αὐτοῦ.

Τῷ Κυρίῳ Θεῷ ἡμῶν ἡ δικαιοσύνη, ἡμῖν δὲ καὶ τοῖς ⁶ πατράσιν ἡμῶν ἡ αἰσχύνῃ τῶν προσώπων, ὡς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη. Ἄ ἐλάλησε Κύριος ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, πάντα τὰ κακὰ ταῦτα ἃ ἦλθεν ⁷ ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, καὶ οὐκ ἐδεήθημεν τοῦ προσώπου Κυρίου, τοῦ ⁸ ἀποστρέφαι ἕκαστον ἀπὸ τῶν νοημάτων τῆς καρδίας αὐτῶν τῆς πονηρᾶς. Καὶ ἐργηγόρησε Κύριος ἐπὶ τοῖς κακοῖς, καὶ ⁹ ἐπήγαγε Κύριος ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ὅτι δίκαιος ὁ Κύριος ἐπὶ πάντα τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ, ἃ ἐνετείλατο ἡμῖν. Καὶ οὐκ ἠκούσαμεν τῆς ¹⁰

φωνῆς αὐτοῦ, πορεύεσθαι τοῖς προστάγμασι Κυρίου, οἷς ἔδωκε κατὰ πρόσωπον ἡμῶν·

- 11 Καὶ νῦν Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς Ἰσραὴλ, ὃς ἐξήγαγες τὸν λαόν σου ἐκ γῆς Αἰγύπτου, ἐν χειρὶ κραταιᾷ, καὶ ἐν σημείοις, καὶ ἐν τέρασι, καὶ ἐν δυνάμει μεγάλῃ, καὶ ἐν βραχίονι ὑψηλῷ,
12 καὶ ἐποίησας σεαυτῷ ὄνομα, ὡς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη, ἡμάρτομεν, ἡσεβήσαμεν, ἡδικήσαμεν, Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς δικαιώμασί σου.

- 13 Ἀποστραφήτω ὁ θυμὸς σου ἀφ' ἡμῶν, ὅτι κατελείφθημεν ὀλίγοι ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν οὗ διέσπειρας ἡμᾶς ἐκεῖ.

- 14 Εἰσακούσον Κύριε τῆς προσευχῆς ἡμῶν καὶ τῆς δεήσεως ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐξελοῦ ἡμᾶς ἕνεκέν σου, καὶ δὸς ἡμῖν χάριν κατὰ
15 πρόσωπον τῶν ἀποικισάντων ἡμᾶς, ἵνα γνῶ πᾶσα ἡ γῆ, ὅτι σὺ Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὅτι τὸ ὄνομά σου ἐπεκλήθη ἐπὶ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸ γένος αὐτοῦ.

- 16 Κύριε κάτιδε ἐκ τοῦ οἴκου τοῦ ἁγίου σου, καὶ ἐννόησον εἰς ἡμᾶς, καὶ κλίνον Κύριε τὸ οὖς σου, καὶ ἄκουσον.

- 17 Ἄνοιξον ὀφθαλμούς σου, καὶ ἴδε, ὅτι οὐχ οἱ τεθηγκότες ἐν τῷ ᾄδι, ὧν ἐλήφθη τὸ πνεῦμα αὐτῶν ἀπὸ τῶν σπλάγχχνων
18 αὐτῶν, δώσουσι δόξαν καὶ δικαίωμα τῷ Κυρίῳ· ἀλλὰ ἡ ψυχὴ ἡ λυπούμενη ἐπὶ τὸ μέγεθος, ὃ βαδίζει κύπτον καὶ ἀσθενοῦν, καὶ οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ οἱ ἐκλείποντες, καὶ ἡ ψυχὴ ἡ πεινώσα, δώσουσί σοι δόξαν, καὶ δικαιοσύνην, Κύριε.

- 19 Ὅτι οὐκ ἐπὶ τὰ δικαιώματα τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν καὶ τῶν βασιλέων ἡμῶν ἡμεῖς καταβάλλομεν τὸν ἔλεον κατὰ πρόσ-
20 ωπόν σου, Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν· ὅτι ἐνῆκας τὸν θυμόν σου καὶ τὴν ὀργήν σου εἰς ἡμᾶς, καθάπερ ἐλάλησας ἐν χειρὶ τῶν παίδων σου τῶν προφητῶν·

- 21 Οὕτως εἶπε Κύριος, κλίνετε τὸν ὦμον ὑμῶν, καὶ ἐργά-
σασθε τῷ βασιλεῖ Βαβυλῶνος, καὶ καθίσατε ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, ἣν
22 δέδωκα τοῖς πατράσιν ὑμῶν. Καὶ ἐὰν μὴ ἀκούσητε τῆς
23 φωνῆς Κυρίου, ἐργάσασθαι τῷ βασιλεῖ Βαβυλῶνος, ἐκλεί-
ψειν ποιήσω ἐκ πόλεων Ἰουδα καὶ ἔξωθεν Ἱερουσαλὴμ
φωνὴν εὐφροσύνης, καὶ φωνὴν χαρμοσύνης, φωνὴν νυμφίου,
καὶ φωνὴν νύμφης, καὶ ἔσται πᾶσα ἡ γῆ εἰς ἄβατον ἀπὸ
24 ἐνοικούντων. Καὶ οὐκ ἠκούσαμεν τῆς φωνῆς σου, ἐργά-
σασθαι τῷ βασιλεῖ Βαβυλῶνος· καὶ ἔστησας τοὺς λόγους
σου, οὓς ἐλάλησας ἐν χερσὶ τῶν παίδων σου τῶν προφητῶν,
τοῦ ἐξενεχθῆναι τὰ ὀστᾶ βασιλέων ἡμῶν καὶ τὰ ὀστᾶ τῶν
πατέρων ἡμῶν ἐκ τοῦ τόπου αὐτῶν.

- 25 Καὶ ἰδοὺ ἐστὶν ἐξερριμμένα τῷ καύματι τῆς ἡμέρας, καὶ
τῷ παγετῷ τῆς νυκτός· καὶ ἀπεθάνοσαν ἐν πόνοις πονηροῖς,
26 ἐν λιμῷ, καὶ ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ, καὶ ἐν ἀποστολῇ. Καὶ ἔθηκας
τὸν οἶκον, οὗ ἐπεκλήθη τὸ ὄνομά σου ἐπ' αὐτῷ, ὡς ἡ ἡμέρα
αὕτη, διὰ πονηρίαν οἴκου Ἰσραὴλ καὶ οἴκου Ἰουδα.

- 27 Καὶ ἐποίησας εἰς ἡμᾶς, Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, κατὰ πᾶσαν ἐπιείκειάν σου, καὶ κατὰ πάντα οἰκτιρμόν σου τὸν μέγαν,
28 καθὰ ἐλάλησας ἐν χειρὶ παιδός σου Μωυσῆ, ἐν ἡμέρᾳ ἐντελαμένου σου αὐτῷ γράψαι τὸν νόμον σου ἐναντίον υἱῶν Ἰσραὴλ, λέγων.

- 29 Ἐὰν μὴ ἀκούσητε τῆς φωνῆς μου, ἡ μὴν ἡ βόμβησις ἡ

hearkened unto his voice, to walk in the commandments of the Lord, that he hath set before us.

¹¹ And now, O Lord God of Israel, that hast brought thy people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and high arm, and with signs, and with wonders, and with great power, and hast gotten thyself a name, as *appeareth* this day: ¹² O Lord our God, we have sinned, we have done ungodly, we have dealt unrighteously in all thine ordinances.

¹³ Let thy wrath turn from us: for we are but a few left among the heathen, where thou hast scattered us.

¹⁴ Hear our prayers, O Lord, and our petitions, and deliver us for thine own sake, and give us favour in the sight of them which have led us away: ¹⁵ that all the earth may know that thou art the Lord our God, because Israel and his posterity is called by thy name.

¹⁶ O Lord, look down from thine holy house, and consider us: bow down thine ear, O Lord, to hear us.

¹⁷ Open thine eyes, and behold; for the dead that are in the graves, whose souls are taken from their bodies, will give unto the Lord neither praise nor righteousness: ¹⁸ but the soul that is greatly vexed, which goeth stooping and feeble, and the eyes that fail, and the hungry soul, will give thee praise and righteousness, O Lord.

¹⁹ Therefore we do not make our humble supplication before thee, O Lord our God, for the righteousness of our fathers, and of our kings, ²⁰ for thou hast sent out thy wrath and indignation upon us, as thou hast spoken by thy servants the prophets, *saying*,

²¹ Thus saith the Lord, Bow down your shoulders to serve the king of Babylon: so shall ye remain in the land that I gave unto your fathers. ²² But if ye will not hear the voice of the Lord, to serve the king of Babylon, ²³ I will cause to cease out of the cities of Juda, and from without Jerusalem, the voice of mirth, and the voice of joy, the voice of the bridegroom, and the voice of the bride: and the whole land shall be desolate of inhabitants. ²⁴ But we would not hearken unto thy voice, to serve the king of Babylon: therefore hast thou made good the words that thou spakest by thy servants the prophets, namely, that the bones of our kings, and the bones of our fathers, should be taken out of their places.

²⁵ And lo, they are cast out to the heat of the day, and to the frost of the night, and they died in great miseries by famine, by sword, and by pestilence. ²⁶ And the house which is called by thy name hast thou laid waste, as *it is to be seen* this day, for the wickedness of the house of Israel and the house of Juda.

²⁷ O Lord our God, thou hast dealt with us after all thy goodness, and according to all that great mercy of thine, ²⁸ as thou spakest by thy servant Moses in the day when thou didst command him to write thy law before the children of Israel, *saying*,

²⁹ If ye will not hear my voice, surely this

very great multitude shall be turned into a small number among the nations, where I will scatter them.

³⁰ For I knew that they would not hear me, because it is a stiffnecked people: but in the land of their captivities they shall remember themselves, ³¹ and shall know that I am the Lord their God: for I will give them an heart, and ears to ear: ³² and they shall praise me in the land of their captivity, and think upon my name, ³³ and return from their stiff neck, and from their wicked deeds: for they shall remember the way of their fathers, which sinned before the Lord.

³⁴ And I will bring them again into the land which I promised with an oath unto their fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and they shall be lords of it: and I will increase them, and they shall not be diminished. ³⁵ And I will make an everlasting covenant with them to be their God, and they shall be my people: and I will no more drive my people of Israel out of the land that I have given them.

O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, the soul in anguish, the troubled spirit, crieth unto thee. ² Hear, O Lord, and have mercy; for thou art merciful: and have pity upon us, because we have sinned before thee. ³ For thou endurest for ever, and we perish utterly.

⁴ O Lord Almighty, thou God of Israel, hear now the prayers of the dead Israelites, and of their children, which have sinned before thee, and not hearkened unto the voice of thee their God: for the which cause these plagues cleave unto us. ⁵ Remember not the iniquities of our forefathers: but think upon thy power and thy name now at this time. ⁶ For thou art the Lord our God, and thee, O Lord, will we praise.

⁷ And for this cause thou hast put thy fear in our hearts, to the intent that we should call upon thy name, and praise thee in our captivity: for we have called to mind all the iniquity of our forefathers, that sinned before thee.

⁸ Behold, we are yet this day in our captivity, where thou hast scattered us, for a reproach and a curse, and to be subject to payments, according to all the iniquities of our fathers, which departed from the Lord our God.

⁹ Hear, Israel, the commandments of life: give ear to understand wisdom. ¹⁰ How happeneth it, Israel, that thou art in thine enemies' land, that thou art waxen old in a strange country, that thou art defiled with the dead, ¹¹ that thou art counted with them that go down into the grave? ¹² Thou hast forsaken the fountain of wisdom. ¹³ For if thou hadst walked in the way of God, thou shouldst have dwelled in peace for ever.

¹⁴ Learn where is wisdom, where is strength, where is understanding; that thou mayest know also where is length of days, and life, where is the light of the eyes, and peace. ¹⁵ Who hath found out her place? or who hath come into her treasures?

¹⁶ Where are the princes of the heathen, and such as ruled the beasts upon the earth; ¹⁷ they that had their pastime with the fowls of the air, and they that hoarded up silver and gold, wherein men trust, and made no end of their getting? ¹⁸ For they that

μεγάλη ἢ πολλή αὕτη ἀποστρέψει εἰς μικράν ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσιν, οὐδ' διασπερῶ αὐτοὺς ἐκεῖ.

Ὅτι ἔγνω ὅτι οὐ μὴ ἀκούσωσί μου, ὅτι λαὸς σκληρο- 30
τράχηλός ἐστι· καὶ ἐπιστρέψουσιν ἐπὶ καρδίαν αὐτῶν ἐν γῇ
ἀποικισμοῦ αὐτῶν, καὶ γνώσονται ὅτι ἐγὼ Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς 31
αὐτῶν· καὶ δώσω αὐτοῖς καρδίαν καὶ ὦτα ἀκούοντα, καὶ 32
αἰνέσουσί με ἐν γῇ ἀποικισμοῦ αὐτῶν· καὶ μνησθήσονται
τοῦ ὀνόματός μου, καὶ ἀποστρέψουσιν ἀπὸ τοῦ νώτου αὐτῶν 33
τοῦ σκληροῦ, καὶ ἀπὸ πονηρῶν προσταγμάτων αὐτῶν, ὅτι
μνησθήσονται τῆς ὁδοῦ πατέρων αὐτῶν τῶν ἁμαρτόντων
ἐναντι Κυρίου.

Καὶ ἀποστρέψω αὐτοὺς εἰς τὴν γῆν, ἣν ὤμοσα τοῖς πα- 34
τράσιν αὐτῶν, τῷ Ἀβραάμ, καὶ τῷ Ἰσαὰκ, καὶ τῷ Ἰακώβ,
καὶ κυριεύσουσιν αὐτῆς· καὶ πληθυνῶ αὐτοὺς, καὶ οὐ μὴ
σμικρυνθῶσι. Καὶ στήσω αὐτοῖς διαθήκην αἰώνιον, τοῦ 35
εἶναί με αὐτοῖς εἰς Θεόν, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔσονται μοι εἰς λαόν·
καὶ οὐ κινήσω ἔτι τὸν λαόν μου Ἰσραὴλ ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς, ἧς
ἔδωκα αὐτοῖς.

Κύριε παντοκράτωρ ὁ Θεὸς Ἰσραὴλ, ψυχὴ ἐν στενοῖς καὶ 3
πνεῦμα ἀκηδῶν κέκραγε πρὸς σέ. Ἄκουσον, Κύριε, καὶ 2
ἐλέησον, ὅτι ἡμάρτομεν ἐναντίον σου· ὅτι σὺ καθήμενος τὸν 3
αἰῶνα, καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀπολλύμενοι τὸν αἰῶνα.

Κύριε παντοκράτωρ ὁ Θεὸς Ἰσραὴλ, ἄκουσον δὴ τῆς 4
προσευχῆς τῶν τεθνηκότων Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ υἱῶν τῶν ἁμαρτα-
νόντων ἐναντίον σου, οἳ οὐκ ἤκουσαν τῆς φωνῆς σου Θεοῦ
αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐκολλήθη ἡμῖν τὰ κακά. Μὴ μνησθῇς ἀδικιῶν 5
πατέρων ἡμῶν, ἀλλὰ μνήσθητι χειρός σου καὶ ὀνόματός σου
ἐν τῷ καιρῷ τούτῳ· ὅτι σὺ Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, καὶ αἰνέσο- 6
μεν σε Κύριε·

Ὅτι διὰ τοῦτο ἔδωκας τὸν φόβον σου ἐπὶ καρδίαν ἡμῶν, 7
καὶ ἐπικαλεῖσθαι τὸ ὄνομά σου· καὶ αἰνέσομέν σε ἐν τῇ
ἀποικίᾳ ἡμῶν, ὅτι ἀπεστρέψαμεν ἀπὸ καρδίας ἡμῶν πᾶσαν
ἀδικίαν πατέρων ἡμῶν, τῶν ἡμαρτηκότων ἐναντίον σου.

Ἴδου ἡμεῖς σήμερον ἐν τῇ ἀποικίᾳ ἡμῶν, οὐ διεσπείρας 8
ἡμᾶς ἐκεῖ εἰς ὀνειδισμόν, καὶ εἰς ἄραν, καὶ εἰς ὀφλησιν κατὰ
πάσας τὰς ἀδικίας πατέρων ἡμῶν, οἳ ἀπέστησαν ἀπὸ Κυρίου
Θεοῦ ἡμῶν.

Ἄκουε Ἰσραὴλ ἐντολὰς ζωῆς, ἐνωτίσασθε γνῶναι φρόνη- 9
σιν. Τί ἐστὶν Ἰσραὴλ; τί ὅτι ἐν γῇ τῶν ἐχθρῶν εἶ; 10
ἐπαλαιώθη ἐν γῇ ἁλλοτρία, συνεμιάνθη τοῖς νεκροῖς,
προσελογίσθη μετὰ τῶν εἰς ᾄδου, ἐγκατέλιπες τὴν 11, 12
πηγὴν τῆς σοφίας. Τῇ ὁδῷ τοῦ Θεοῦ εἰ ἐπορεύθης, κατὰ- 13
κεις ἂν ἐν εἰρήνῃ τὸν αἰῶνα.

Μάθε ποῦ ἐστὶ φρόνησις, ποῦ ἐστὶν ἰσχύς, ποῦ ἐστὶν 14
σύνεσις, τοῦ γνῶναι ἅμα ποῦ ἐστὶ μακροβιώσις καὶ ζωὴ,
ποῦ ἐστὶ φῶς ὀφθαλμῶν καὶ εἰρήνη. Τίς εὗρε τὸν τόπον 15
αὐτῆς, καὶ τίς εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τοὺς θησαυροὺς αὐτῆς;

Ποῦ εἰσιν οἱ ἄρχοντες τῶν ἐθνῶν, καὶ οἱ κυριεύοντες τῶν 16
θηρίων τῶν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, οἱ ἐν τοῖς ὀρνέοις τοῦ οὐρανοῦ 17
ἐμπαίζοντες, καὶ τὸ ἀργύριον θησαυρίζοντες, καὶ τὸ χρυσίον
ᾧ ἐπεποιθείσαν ἄνθρωποι, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι τέλος τῆς κτήσεως
αὐτῶν; Ὅτι οἱ τὸ ἀργύριον τεκταίνοντες καὶ μεριμνῶντες, 18

- 19 καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐξεύρεσις τῶν ἔργων αὐτῶν. Ἐφανίσθησαν, καὶ εἰς ᾄδου κατέβησαν, καὶ ἄλλοι ἀνέστησαν ἀντ' αὐτῶν.
- 20 Νεώτεροι εἶδον φῶς, καὶ κατώκησαν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, ὁδὸν δὲ
- 21 ἐπιστήμης οὐκ ἔγνωσαν, οὐδὲ συνῆκαν τρίβους αὐτῆς, οὐδὲ ἀντελάβοντο αὐτῆς· οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτῶν ἀπὸ τῆς ὁδοῦ αὐτῶν
- 22 πόρρω ἐγενήθησαν. Οὐδὲ ἠκούσθη ἐν Χαναάν, οὐδὲ ὦφθη ἐν Θαιμάν.
- 23 Οἷτε υἱοὶ Ἀγαρ οἱ ἐκζητοῦντες τὴν σύνεσιν οἱ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, οἱ ἔμποροι τῆς Μερρᾶν, καὶ Θαιμάν, καὶ οἱ μυθολόγοι, καὶ οἱ ἐκζητηταὶ τῆς συνέσεως, ὁδὸν δὲ σοφίας οὐκ ἔγνωσαν, οὐδὲ ἐμνήσθησαν τὰς τρίβους αὐτῆς.
- 24 Ὡς Ἰσραὴλ, ὡς μέγας ὁ οἶκος τοῦ Θεοῦ; καὶ ἐπιμύκης ὁ
- 25 τόπος τῆς κτήσεως αὐτοῦ; Μέγας, καὶ οὐκ ἔχει τελευτήν,
- 26 ὑψηλὸς καὶ ἀμέτρητος. Ἐκεῖ ἐγεννήθησαν οἱ γίγαντες οἱ ὀνομαστοὶ, ἀπ' ἀρχῆς γενόμενοι εὐμεγέθεις, ἐπιστάμενοι
- 27 πόλεμον. Οὐ τούτους ἐξελέξατο ὁ Θεός, οὐδὲ ὁδὸν ἐπι-
- 28 στήμης ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς. Καὶ ἀπώλοντο παρὰ τὸ μὴ ἔχειν φρόνησιν, ἀπώλοντο διὰ τὴν ἀβουλίαν αὐτῶν.
- 29 Τίς ἀνέβη εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν, καὶ ἔλαβεν αὐτήν, καὶ κατε-
- 30 βίβασεν αὐτήν ἐκ τῶν νεφελῶν; Τίς διέβη πέραν τῆς θαλάσσης, καὶ εὑρεν αὐτήν, καὶ οἶσει αὐτήν χρυσοῦ ἐκλεκ-
- 31 τοῦ; Οὐκ ἔστιν ὁ γινώσκων τὴν ὁδὸν αὐτῆς, οὐδὲ ὁ ἐνθυ-
- μούμενος τὴν τρίβον αὐτῆς.
- 32 Ἀλλ' ὁ εἰδὼς τὰ πάντα γινώσκει αὐτήν, ἐξεύρεν αὐτήν τῇ
- συνέσει αὐτοῦ· ὁ κατασκευάσας τὴν γῆν εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα
- 33 χρόνον, ἐνέπλησεν αὐτήν κτηνῶν τετραπόδων. Ὁ ἀπο-
- στέλλων τὸ φῶς καὶ πορεύεται, ἐκάλεσεν αὐτὸ, καὶ ὑπή-
- 34 κουσεν αὐτῷ τρόμφ. Οἱ δὲ ἀστέρες ἔλαμψαν ἐν ταῖς φυλακαῖς αὐτῶν, καὶ εὐφράνθησαν· ἐκάλεσεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ εἶπον, πάρεσμεν· ἔλαμψαν μετ' εὐφροσύνης τῷ ποιήσαντι αὐτούς.
- 35 Οὗτος ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, οὐ λογισθῆσεται ἕτερος πρὸς αὐτόν.
- 36 Ἐξεῦρε πᾶσαν ὁδὸν ἐπιστήμης, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτήν Ἰακώβ τῷ
- 37 παιδί αὐτοῦ, καὶ Ἰσραὴλ τῷ ἡγαπημένῳ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ. Μετὰ
- τοῦτο ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ὦφθη, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις συνανέ-
- στράφη.
- 4 Αὕτη ἡ βίβλος τῶν προσταγμάτων τοῦ Θεοῦ, καὶ ὁ νόμος ὁ ὑπάρχων εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα· πάντες οἱ κρατοῦντες αὐτήν, εἰς
- 2 ζώην· οἱ δὲ καταλείποντες αὐτήν, ἀποθανοῦνται. Ἐπι-
- στρέφου Ἰακώβ, καὶ ἐπιλαβοῦ αὐτῆς, διόδενσον πρὸς τὴν
- 3 λάμψιν κατέναντι τοῦ φωτὸς αὐτῆς. Μὴ δῶς ἐτέρῳ τὴν δόξαν σου, καὶ τὰ συμφέροντά σοι ἔθνη ἀλλοτρίω.
- 4 Μακάριοι ἐσμέν Ἰσραὴλ, ὅτι τὰ ἀρεστά τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῖν
- 5 γνωστά ἐστι. Θαρσείτε λαός μου, μνημόσυνον Ἰσραὴλ.
- 6 Ἐπράβητε τοῖς ἔθνεσιν οὐκ εἰς ἀπώλειαν, διὰ τὸ παροργίσαι
- 7 ὑμᾶς τὸν Θεόν· παρεδόθητε τοῖς ὑπεναντίοις. Παρωξύνετε γὰρ τὸν ποιήσαντα ὑμᾶς, θύσαντες δαιμονίοις, καὶ οὐ Θεῷ.
- 8 Ἐπελάθεσθε τὸν τροφεύσαντα ὑμᾶς Θεὸν αἰώνιον, ἐλυπή-
- σατε δὲ καὶ τὴν ἐκθρέψασαν ἡμᾶς Ἱερουσαλὴμ.
- 9 Εἶδε γὰρ τὴν ἐπελθοῦσαν ὑμῖν ὀργὴν παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ, καὶ εἶπεν, ἀκούσατε αἱ πάροικοι Σιών, ἐπήγαγέ μοι ὁ Θεός

wrought in silver, and were so careful, and whose works are unsearchable, ¹⁹ they are vanished and gone down to the grave, and others are come up in their stead.

²⁰ Young men have seen light, and dwelt upon the earth; but the way of knowledge have they not known, ²¹ nor understood the paths thereof, nor laid hold of it: their children were far off from that way. ²² It hath not been heard of in Chanaan, neither hath it been seen in Theman.

²³ The Agarenes that seek wisdom upon earth, the merchants of Meran and of Theman, the authors of fables, and searchers out of understanding; none of these have known the way of wisdom, or remembered her paths.

²⁴ O Israel, how great is the house of God! and how large is the place of his possession! ²⁵ Great, and hath none end; high, and unmeasurable. ²⁶ There were the giants famous from the beginning, that were of so great stature, and so expert in war. ²⁷ Those did not the Lord choose, neither gave he the way of knowledge unto them: ²⁸ but they were destroyed, because they had no wisdom, and perished through their own foolishness.

²⁹ Who hath gone up into heaven, and taken her, and brought her down from the clouds? ³⁰ Who hath gone over the sea, and found her, and will bring her for pure gold? ³¹ No man knoweth her way, nor thinketh of her path.

³² But he that knoweth all things knoweth her, and hath found her out with his understanding: he that prepared the earth for evermore hath filled it with fourfooted beasts: ³³ he that sendeth forth light, and it goeth, calleth it *again*, and it obeyeth him with fear. ³⁴ The stars shined in their watches, and rejoiced: when he calleth them, they say, Here we be; and so with cheerfulness they shewed light unto him that made them.

³⁵ This is our God, and there shall none other be accounted of in comparison of him. ³⁶ He hath found out all the way of knowledge, and hath given it unto Jacob his servant, and to Israel his beloved. ³⁷ Afterward did he shew himself upon earth, and conversed with men.

This is the book of the commandments of God, and the law that endureth for ever: all they that keep it *shall come* to life; but such as leave it shall die. ² Turn thee, O Jacob, and take hold of it: walk in the presence of the light thereof, that thou mayest be illuminated. ³ Give not thine honour to another, nor the things that are profitable unto thee to a strange nation.

⁴ O Israel, happy are we: for things that are pleasing to God are made known unto us. ⁵ Be of good cheer, my people, the memorial of Israel. ⁶ Ye were sold to the nations, not for [your] destruction: but because ye moved God to wrath, ye were delivered unto the enemies. ⁷ For ye provoked him that made you by sacrificing unto devils and not to God. ⁸ Ye have forgotten the everlasting God, that brought you up; and ye have grieved Jerusalem, that nursed you.

⁹ For when she saw the wrath of God coming upon you, she said, Hearken, O ye that dwell about Sion: God hath brought upon me

great mourning; ¹⁰ for I saw the captivity of my sons and daughters, which the Everlasting brought upon them. ¹¹ With joy did I nourish them; but sent them away with weeping and mourning.

¹² Let no man rejoice over me, a widow, and forsaken of many, who for the sins of my children am left desolate; because they departed from the law of God. ¹³ They knew not his statutes, nor walked in the ways of his commandments, nor trod in the paths of discipline in his righteousness.

¹⁴ Let them that dwell about Sion come, and remember ye the captivity of my sons and daughters, which the Everlasting hath brought upon them. ¹⁵ For he hath brought a nation upon them from far, a shameless nation, and of a strange language, who neither revered old man, nor pitied child, ¹⁶ and they have carried away the dear beloved children of the widow, and left her that was alone desolate without daughters. ¹⁷ But what can I help you? ¹⁸ For he that brought these plagues upon you will deliver you from the hands of your enemies. ¹⁹ Go your way, O my children, go your way: for I am left desolate. ²⁰ I have put off the clothing of peace, and put upon me the sackcloth of my prayer: I will cry unto the Everlasting in my days.

²¹ Be of good cheer, O my children, cry unto the Lord, and he shall deliver you from the power and hand of the enemies.

²² For my hope is in the Everlasting, that he will save you: and joy is come unto me from the Holy One, because of the mercy which shall soon come unto you from the Everlasting your Saviour.

²³ For I sent you out with mourning and weeping: but God will give you to me again with joy and gladness for ever. ²⁴ Like as now the neighbours of Sion have seen your captivity: so shall they see shortly your salvation from your God, which shall come upon you with great glory, and brightness of the Everlasting.

²⁵ My children, suffer patiently the wrath that is come upon you from God: for thine enemy hath persecuted thee; but shortly thou shalt see his destruction, and shalt tread upon his neck. ²⁶ My delicate ones have gone rough ways, and were taken away as a flock caught of the enemies.

²⁷ Be of good comfort, O my children, and cry unto God: for ye shall be remembered of him that brought these things upon you. ²⁸ For as it was your mind to go astray from God: so, being returned, seek him ten times more. ²⁹ For he that hath brought these plagues upon you shall bring you everlasting joy again with your salvation.

³⁰ Take a good heart, O Jerusalem: for he that gave thee that name will comfort thee. ³¹ Miserable are they that afflicted thee, and rejoiced at thy fall. ³² Miserable are the cities which thy children served: miserable is she that received thy sons. ³³ For as she rejoiced at thy ruin, and was glad of thy fall: so shall she be grieved for her own desolation. ³⁴ For I will take away the rejoicing of her great multitude, and her pride shall be turned into mourning. ³⁵ For fire shall come upon her from the

πένθος μέγα. Εἶδον γὰρ τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν τῶν υἱῶν μου ¹⁰ καὶ τῶν θυγατέρων, ἣν ἐπήγαγεν αὐτοῖς ὁ αἰώνιος. Ἐθρεψα ¹¹ γὰρ αὐτοὺς μετ' εὐφροσύνης, ἐξαπέστειλα δὲ μετὰ κλαυθμοῦ καὶ πένθους.

Μηδεὶς ἐπιχαίρτω μοι τῇ χήρᾳ καὶ καταλειφθήσῃ ὑπὸ ¹² πολλῶν, ἡρμηώθην διὰ τὰς ἁμαρτίας τῶν τέκνων μου, διότι ἐξέκλιναν ἐκ νόμου Θεοῦ, καὶ δικαιώματα αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔγνωσαν, ¹³ οὐδὲ ἐπορεύθησαν ὁδοῖς ἐντολῶν Θεοῦ, οὐδὲ τρίβους παιδείας ἐν δικαιοσύνῃ αὐτοῦ ἐπέβησαν.

Ἐλθέτωσαν αἱ πάροιχοι Σιών, καὶ μνήσθητε τὴν αἰχμα- ¹⁴ λωσίαν τῶν υἱῶν μου καὶ θυγατέρων, ἣν ἐπήγαγεν αὐτοῖς ὁ αἰώνιος. Ἐπήγαγε γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἔθνος μακρόθεν, ἔθνος ¹⁵ ἀναιδὲς καὶ ἀλλόγλωσσον· ὅτι οὐκ ἡσχύνθησαν πρεσβύτην, οὐδὲ παιδίον ἠλέησαν, καὶ ἀπήγαγον τοὺς ἀγαπητοὺς ¹⁶ τῆς χήρας, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν θυγατέρων τὴν μόνην ἡρήμωσαν. Ἐγὼ δὲ τί δυνατὴ βοηθήσαι ὑμῖν; Ὁ γὰρ ἐπαγαγὼν ¹⁷ τὰ κακὰ, ἐξελεῖται ὑμᾶς ἐκ χειρὸς ἐχθρῶν ὑμῶν. Βαδίζετε ¹⁸ τέκνα, βαδίζετε, ἐγὼ γὰρ κατελείφθην ἔρημος. Ἐξεδν- ¹⁹ σάμην τὴν στολὴν τῆς εἰρήνης, ἐνεδυσάμην δὲ σάκκον τῆς ²⁰ δεήσεώς μου· κεκράξομαι πρὸς τὸν αἰώνιον ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις μου.

Θαρρῆτε τέκνα, βοήσατε πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν, καὶ ἐξελεῖται ²¹ ὑμᾶς ἐκ δυναστείας, ἐκ χειρὸς ἐχθρῶν.

Ἐγὼ γὰρ ἠλπισα ἐπὶ τῷ αἰωνίῳ τὴν σωτηρίαν ὑμῶν· ²² καὶ ἠλθέ μοι χαρὰ παρὰ τοῦ ἁγίου ἐπὶ τῇ ἐλεημοσύνῃ, ἣ ἤξει ὑμῖν ἐν τάχει παρὰ τοῦ αἰωνίου σωτῆρος ὑμῶν.

Ἐξέπεμψα γὰρ ὑμᾶς μετὰ κλαυθμοῦ καὶ πένθους, ἀπο- ²³ δώσει δέ μοι ὁ Θεὸς ὑμᾶς μετὰ χαρμοσύνης καὶ εὐφροσύνης εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Ὡς περ γὰρ νῦν ἐωράκασιν αἱ πάροιχοι Σιών ²⁴ τὴν ὑμετέραν αἰχμαλωσίαν, οὕτως ὄψονται ἐν τάχει τὴν παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ ὑμῶν σωτηρίαν, ἣ ἐπελεύσεται ὑμῖν μετὰ δόξης μεγάλης καὶ λαμπρότητος τοῦ αἰωνίου.

Τέκνα μακροθυμήσατε τὴν παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐπελθούσαν ²⁵ ὑμῖν ὀργὴν, κατεδίωξέ σε ὁ ἐχθρὸς, καὶ ὄψει αὐτοῦ τὴν ἀπώλειαν ἐν τάχει, καὶ ἐπὶ τραχήλους αὐτῶν ἐπιβήσῃ. Οἱ ²⁶ τρυφεροὶ μου ἐπορεύθησαν ὁδοὺς τραχείας, ἤρθησαν ὡς ποίμνιον ἡρπασμένον ὑπὸ ἐχθρῶν.

Θαρσῆσατε τέκνα καὶ βοήσατε πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν, ἔσται γὰρ ²⁷ ὑμῶν ὑπὸ τοῦ ἐπάγοντος μνεία. Ὡς περ γὰρ ἐγένετο ἡ ²⁸ διάνοια ὑμῶν εἰς τὸ πλανηθῆναι ἀπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ, δεκαπλασιάσατε ἐπιστραφέντες ζητῆσαι αὐτόν. Ὁ γὰρ ἐπαγαγὼν ²⁹ ὑμῖν τὰ κακὰ, ἐπάξει ὑμῖν τὴν αἰώνιον εὐφροσύνην μετὰ τῆς σωτηρίας ὑμῶν.

Θάρσει Ἱερουσαλὴμ, παρακάλεσει σε ὁ ὀνομάσας σε. ³⁰ Δεΐλαιοι οἱ σὲ κακώσαντες, καὶ ἐπιχαρέντες τῇ σῇ πτώσει· ³¹ Δεΐλαιαι αἱ πόλεις αἷς ἐδούλευσαν τὰ τέκνα σου, δεῖλαία ἡ ³² δεξαμένη τοὺς υἱούς σου. Ὡς περ γὰρ ἐχάρη ἐπὶ τῇ σῇ ³³ πτώσει, καὶ εὐφράνθη ἐπὶ τῷ πτώματί σου, οὕτως λυπηθήσεται ἐπὶ τῇ ἐαυτῆς ἐρημίᾳ. Καὶ περιελῶ αὐτῆς τὸ ἀγαλ- ³⁴ λίαμα τῆς πολυοχλίας καὶ τὸ γανρίαμα αὐτῆς εἰς πένθος. Πῦρ γὰρ ἐπελεύσεται αὐτῇ παρὰ τοῦ αἰωνίου εἰς ἡμέρας ³⁵

μακρὰς, καὶ κατοικηθήσεται ὑπὸ δαιμονίων τὸν πλείονα χρόνον.

36 Περιβλεψον πρὸς ἀνατολὰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἴδε τὴν
37 εὐφροσύνην τὴν παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ σοι ἐρχομένην. Ἰδοὺ
ἐρχονται οἱ υἱοὶ σου οὓς ἐξάπεστείλας, ἐρχονται συνηγμένοι
ἀπὸ ἀνατολῶν ἕως δυσμῶν τῷ ῥήματι τοῦ ἁγίου, χαίροντες
τῇ τοῦ Θεοῦ δόξῃ.

5 Ἐκδυσαι Ἱερουσαλὴμ τὴν στολὴν τοῦ πένθους καὶ τῆς
κακώσεώς σου, καὶ ἔνδυσαι τὴν εὐπρέπειαν τῆς παρὰ τοῦ
Θεοῦ δόξης εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.

2 Περιβαλοῦ τὴν διπλοῖδα τῆς παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ δικαιοσύνης,
ἐπίθου τὴν μίτραν ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν σου τῆς δόξης τοῦ

3 αἰωνίου. Ὁ γὰρ Θεὸς δείξει τῇ ὑπ' οὐρανὸν πάσῃ τὴν σὴν
4 λαμπρότητα. Κληθήσεται γὰρ σου τὸ ὄνομα παρὰ τοῦ
Θεοῦ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, εἰρήνη δικαιοσύνης, καὶ δόξα θεοσε-

βείας.
5 Ἀνάστηθι Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ στῆθι ἐπὶ τοῦ ὑψηλοῦ, καὶ
περίβλεψαι πρὸς ἀνατολὰς, καὶ ἴδε συνηγμένα τὰ τέκνα σου
ἀπὸ ἡλίου δυσμῶν ἕως ἀνατολῶν τῷ ῥήματι τοῦ ἁγίου,
6 χαίροντας τῇ τοῦ Θεοῦ μνεΐμ. Ἐξῆλθον γὰρ παρὰ σοῦ
πεζοὶ ἀγόμενοι ὑπὸ ἐχθρῶν, εἰσάγει δὲ αὐτοὺς ὁ Θεὸς πρὸς
σὲ αἰρομένους μετὰ δόξης ὡς θρόνον βασιλείας.

7 Συνέταξε γὰρ ὁ Θεὸς ταπεινοῦσθαι πᾶν ὄρος ὑψηλόν, καὶ
θίνας ἀενάους, καὶ φάραγγας πληροῦσθαι εἰς ὁμαλισμὸν
τῆς γῆς, ἵνα βαδίσῃ Ἰσραὴλ ἀσφαλῶς τῇ τοῦ Θεοῦ δόξῃ.

8 Ἐσκίασαν δὲ καὶ οἱ δρυμοὶ καὶ πᾶν ξύλον εὐωδίας τῷ
9 Ἰσραὴλ προστάγματι τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ἠγήσεται γὰρ ὁ Θεὸς

Ἰσραὴλ μετ' εὐφροσύνης τῷ φωτὶ τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ, σὺν
ἐλεημοσύνῃ καὶ δικαιοσύνῃ τῇ παρ' αὐτοῦ.

Everlasting, long to endure; and she shall be
inhabited of devils for a great time.

³⁶ O Jerusalem, look about thee toward the
east, and behold the joy that cometh unto
thee from God. ³⁷ Lo, thy sons come, whom
thou sentest away, they come gathered together
from the east to the west by the word of the
Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Put off, O Jerusalem, the garment of thy
mourning and affliction, and put on the comeliness of the glory that cometh from God for ever.

² Cast about thee a double garment of the
righteousness which cometh from God; and
set a diadem on thine head of the glory of the
Everlasting. ³ For God will shew thy bright-
ness unto every country under heaven. ⁴ For
thy name shall be called of God for ever. The
peace of righteousness, and The glory of God's
worship.

⁵ Arise, O Jerusalem, and stand on high, and
look about toward the east, and behold thy
children gathered from the west unto the east
by the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the
remembrance of God. ⁶ For they departed
from thee on foot, and were led away of their
enemies: but God bringeth them unto thee
exalted with glory, as children of the kingdom.

⁷ For God hath appointed that every high
hill, and banks of long continuance, should be
cast down, and vallies filled up, to make even
the ground, that Israel may go safely in the
glory of God. ⁸ Moreover even the woods
and every sweetsmelling tree shall overshadow
Israel by the commandment of God. ⁹ For
God shall lead Israel with joy in the light of
his glory with the mercy and righteousness
that cometh from him.

ΕΠΙΣΤΟΛΗ ΙΕΡΕΜΙΟΥ.

ἌΝΤΙΓΡΑΦΟΝ ἐπιστολῆς ἧς ἀπέστειλεν Ἱερემίας πρὸς
τοὺς ἀχθησομένους αἰχμαλώτους εἰς Βαβυλῶνα ὑπὸ τοῦ
βασιλέως τῶν Βαβυλωνίων, ἀναγγεῖλαι αὐτοῖς καθότι
ἐπετάγη αὐτῷ ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ.

2 Διὰ τὰς ἁμαρτίας ἃς ἡμαρτήκατε ἐναντίον τοῦ Θεοῦ,
ἀχθήσεσθε εἰς Βαβυλῶνα αἰχμάλωτοι ὑπὸ Ναβουχοδονόσορ
3 βασιλέως τῶν Βαβυλωνίων. Εἰσελθόντες οὖν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα,
ἔσεσθε ἐκεῖ ἔτη πλείονα καὶ χρόνον μακρὸν, ἕως γενεῶν
ἐπτά· μετὰ τοῦτο δὲ ἐξάξω ὑμᾶς ἐκείθεν μετ' εἰρήνης.

A COPY of an epistle, which Jeremy sent
unto them which were to be led captives into
Babylon by the king of the Babylonians, to
certify them, as it was commanded him of
God.

² Because of the sins which ye have committed
before God, ye shall be led away captives into
Babylon by Nabuchodonosor king of the
Babylonians. ³ So when ye be come unto
Babylon, ye shall remain there many years, and
for a long season, namely, seven generations:
and after that I will bring you away peaceably
from thence.

⁴ Now shall ye see in Babylon gods of silver, and of gold, and of wood, borne upon shoulders, which cause the nations to fear. ⁵ Beware therefore that ye in no wise be like to strangers, neither be ye afraid of them, when ye see the multitude before them and behind them, worshipping them. ⁶ But say ye in your hearts, O Lord, we must worship thee. ⁷ For mine angel is with you, and I myself caring for your souls.

⁸ As for their tongue, it is polished by the workman, and they themselves are gilded and laid over with gold; yet are they but false, and cannot speak. ⁹ And taking gold, as it were for a virgin that loveth to go gay, they make crowns for the heads of their gods. ¹⁰ Sometimes also the priests convey from their gods gold and silver, and bestow it upon themselves. ¹¹ Yea, they will give thereof to the common harlots, and deck them as men with garments, [being] gods of silver, and gods of gold, and wood.

¹² Yet cannot these gods save themselves from rust and moths, though they be covered with purple raiment. ¹³ They wipe their faces because of the dust of the temple, when there is much upon them. ¹⁴ And he that cannot put to death one that offendeth him holdeth a sceptre, as though he were a judge of the country. ¹⁵ He hath also in his right hand a dagger and an axe: but cannot deliver himself from war and thieves. ¹⁶ Whereby they are known not to be gods: therefore fear them not.

¹⁷ For like as a vessel that a man useth is nothing worth when it is broken; even so it is with their gods: when they be set up in the temple, their eyes be full of dust through the feet of them that come in. ¹⁸ And as the doors are made sure on every side upon him that offendeth the king, as being committed to suffer death; even so the priests make fast their temples with doors, with locks, and bars, lest *their gods* be spoiled with robbers.

¹⁹ They light them candles, yea, more than for themselves, whereof they cannot see one. ²⁰ They are as one of the beams of the temple, yet they say their hearts are gnawed upon by things creeping out of the earth; and when they eat them and their clothes, they feel it not. ²¹ Their faces are blacked through the smoke that cometh out of the temple. ²² Upon their bodies and heads sit bats, swallows, and birds, and the cats also. ²³ By this ye may know that they are no gods: therefore fear them not.

²⁴ Notwithstanding the gold that is about them to make them beautiful, except they wipe off the rust, they will not shine: for neither when they were molten did they feel it. ²⁵ The things wherein there is no breath are bought for a most high price. ²⁶ They are borne upon shoulders, having no feet, whereby they declare unto men that they be nothing worth.

²⁷ They also that serve them are ashamed: for if they fall to the ground at any time, they cannot rise up again of themselves: neither, if one set them upright, can they move of themselves: neither, if they be bowed down, can they make themselves straight: but they set gifts before them, as unto dead men.

Νυνὶ δὲ ὄψεσθε ἐν Βαβυλῶνι θεοὺς ἀργυροῦς καὶ χρυσοῦς 4 καὶ ξυλίνους ἐπ' ὤμοις αἰρομένους, δεικνύντας φόβον τοῖς ἔθνεσιν. Εὐλαβήθητε οὖν μὴ καὶ ὑμεῖς ἀφομοιωθέντες 5 τοῖς ἀλλοφύλοις ἀφομοιωθῆτε, καὶ φόβος ὑμᾶς λάβῃ ἐπ' αὐτοῖς, ἰδόντας ὄχλον ἔμπροσθεν καὶ ὀπίσθεν αὐτῶν προσκυνούντας αὐτά. Εἶπατε δὲ τῇ διανοίᾳ, σοὶ δεῖ προσκυνεῖν, 6 δέσποτα. Ὁ γὰρ ἄγγελός μου μεθ' ὑμῶν ἐστίν, αὐτός τε 7 ἐκζητῶν τὰς ψυχὰς ὑμῶν.

Γλῶσσα γὰρ αὐτῶν ἐστὶ κατεξυσμένη ὑπὸ τέκτονος, αὐτά 8 τε περίχρυσα καὶ περιάργυρα, ψευδῇ δ' ἐστὶ, καὶ οὐ δύνανται λαλεῖν. Καὶ ὥσπερ παρθένῳ φιλοκόσμῳ λαμβάνοντες 9 χρυσίον, κατασκευάζουσι στεφάνους ἐπὶ τὰς κεφαλὰς τῶν θεῶν αὐτῶν. Ἔστι δὲ καὶ ὅτε ὑφαιρούμενοι οἱ ἱερεῖς ἀπὸ 10 τῶν θεῶν αὐτῶν χρυσίον καὶ ἀργύριον εἰς ἑαυτοὺς καταναλοῦσι. Δώσουσι δὲ ἀπ' αὐτῶν καὶ ταῖς ἐπὶ τοῦ στέγους 11 πόρταις· κοσμοῦσί τε αὐτοὺς, ὡς ἀνθρώπους, τοῖς ἐνδύμασι, θεοὺς ἀργυροῦς, καὶ θεοὺς χρυσοῦς, καὶ ξυλίνους.

Οὗτοι δὲ οὐ διασώζονται ἀπὸ ἰοῦ καὶ βρωμάτων, περιβε- 12 βλημένων αὐτῶν ἱματισμὸν πορφυροῦν. Ἐκμάσσονται τὸ 13 πρόσωπον αὐτῶν διὰ τὸν ἐκ τῆς οἰκίας κονιορτὸν, ὅς ἐστι πλείων ἐπ' αὐτοῖς. Καὶ σκῆπτρον ἔχει ὡς ἄνθρωπος κριτῆς 14 χώρας, ὅς τὸν εἰς αὐτὸν ἀμαρτάνοντα οὐκ ἀνελεῖ. Ἐχει δὲ 15 ἐγχειρίδιον δεξιᾷ, καὶ πέλεκυν· ἑαυτὸν δὲ ἐκ πολέμου καὶ ληστῶν οὐκ ἐξελεῖται. Ὅθεν γνώριμοί εἰσιν οὐκ ὄντες θεοί· 16 μὴ οὖν φοβηθῆτε αὐτούς.

Ὅσπερ γὰρ σκεῦος ἀνθρώπου συντριβὲν ἀχρεῖον γίνεται, 17 τοιοῦτοι ὑπάρχουσιν οἱ θεοὶ αὐτῶν, καθιδρυμένων αὐτῶν ἐν τοῖς οἴκοις· οἱ ὀφθαλμοὶ αὐτῶν πλήρεις εἰσὶ κονιορτοῦ ἀπὸ τῶν ποδῶν τῶν εἰσπορευομένων. Καὶ ὥσπερ τινὶ ἡδικηκότη 18 βασιλεῖ, περιπεφραγμένοι εἰσὶν αἱ αὐλαὶ, ὡς ἐπὶ θανάτῳ ἀπηγμένῳ· τοὺς οἴκους αὐτῶν ὀχυροῦσιν οἱ ἱερεῖς θυρώμασί τε καὶ κλείθροισι καὶ μοχλοῖς, ὅπως ὑπὸ τῶν ληστῶν μὴ συληθῶσι.

Λύχνους καίουσιν, καὶ πλείους ἢ ἑαυτοῖς, ὧν οὐδένα δύ- 19 νανται ἰδεῖν. Ἔστι μὲν ὥσπερ δοκὸς τῶν ἐκ τῆς οἰκίας, 20 τὰς δὲ καρδίας αὐτῶν φασιν ἐκλείχεσθαι τῶν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἐρπετῶν, κατεσθόντων αὐτοὺς τε καὶ τὸν ἱματισμὸν αὐτῶν οὐκ αἰσθάνονται. Μεμελανωμένοι τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτῶν ἀπὸ 21 τοῦ καπνοῦ τοῦ ἐκ τῆς οἰκίας. Ἐπὶ τὸ σῶμα αὐτῶν καὶ 22 ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτῶν ἐφίπτανται νυκτερίδες, χελιδόνες, καὶ τὰ ὄρνεα, ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ οἱ αἴλουροι. Ὅθεν γνώσεσθε 23 ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶ θεοί· μὴ οὖν φοβεῖσθε αὐτά.

Τὸ γὰρ χρυσίον ὃ περίκεινται εἰς κάλλος, ἐὰν μὴ τις 24 ἐκμάξῃ τὸν ἰόν, οὐ μὴ στίλψωσιν, οὐδὲ γὰρ ὅτε ἐχωνεύοντο, ἡσθάνοντο. Ἐκ πάσης τιμῆς ἡγορασμένα ἐστὶν, ἐν οἷς 25 οὐκ ἐστὶ πνεῦμα. Ἄνευ ποδῶν ἐπ' ὤμοις φέρονται, ἐνδεικ- 26 νύμενοι τὴν ἑαυτῶν ἀτιμίαν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις.

Αἰσχύνονται τε καὶ οἱ θεραπεύοντες αὐτὰ, διὰ τὸ, εἴποτε 27 ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν πέσῃ, μὴ δι' αὐτῶν ἀνίστασθαι, μήτε ἐὰν τις αὐτὸ ὀρθὸν στήσῃ, δι' ἑαυτοῦ κινηθήσεται, μήτε ἐὰν κλιθῇ, οὐ μὴ ὀρθωθῇ, ἀλλ' ὥσπερ νεκροῖς τὰ δῶρα αὐτοῖς παρατίθεται.

28 Τὰς δὲ θυσίας αὐτῶν ἀποδόμενοι οἱ ἱερεῖς αὐτῶν κατα-
 29 χρῶνται· ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες ἀπ' αὐτῶν ταριχεύουσαι,
 30 οὔτε πτωχῷ οὔτε ἀδυνάτῳ μὴ μεταδώσι. Τῶν θυσιῶν αὐτῶν
 31 ἀποκαθιμένη καὶ λεχὼ ἄπτονται· γνόντες οὖν ἀπὸ τούτων
 32 ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶ θεοὶ, μὴ φοβηθῇτε αὐτούς. Πόθεν γὰρ κλη-
 33 θείσαν θεοί; ὅτι γυναῖκες παρατιθέασιν θεοῖς ἀργυροῖς καὶ
 34 χρυσοῖς καὶ ξύλινοις. Καὶ ἐν τοῖς οἴκοις αὐτῶν οἱ ἱερεῖς
 35 διφρεύνουσιν, ἔχοντες τοὺς χιτῶνας διερβρωγότας, καὶ τὰς
 36 κεφαλὰς καὶ τοὺς πώγωνας ἐξυρμημένους, ὧν αἱ κεφαλαὶ
 37 ἀκάλυπτοι εἰσιν. Ὠρῶνται δὲ βοῶντες ἐναντίον τῶν θεῶν
 38 αὐτῶν, ὥσπερ τινὲς ἐν περιδείπνῳ νεκροῦ.
 39 Ἀπὸ τοῦ ἱματισμοῦ αὐτῶν ἀφελόμενοι οἱ ἱερεῖς, ἐνδύ-
 40 σουνσι τὰς γυναῖκας αὐτῶν καὶ τὰ παιδιά. Οὔτε ἂν κακὸν
 41 πάθωσιν ὑπὸ τινος, οὔτε ἂν ἀγαθὸν, δυνήσονται ἀνταπο-
 42 δοῦναι· οὔτε καταστήσαι βασιλέα δύνανται, οὔτε ἀφελέσθαι.
 43 Ὡσαύτως οὔτε πλοῦτον οὔτε χαλκὸν οὐ μὴ δύνωνται διδόναι·
 44 ἂν τις εὐχὴν αὐτοῖς εὐξάμενος μὴ ἀποδῷ, οὐ μὴ ἐπιζητήσω-
 45 σιν. Ἐκ θανάτου ἄνθρωπον οὐ μὴ ῥύσωνται, οὔτε ἤττονα
 46 ἀπὸ ἰσχυροῦ μὴ ἐξέλωνται. Ἄνθρωπον τυφλὸν εἰς ὄρασιν
 47 οὐ μὴ περιστήσωσιν, ἐν ἀνάγκῃ ἄνθρωπον ὄντα οὐ μὴ
 48 ἐξέλωνται. Χήραν οὐ μὴ ἐλέήσωσιν, οὔτε ὀρφανὸν εὖ
 49 ποιήσωσι.
 50 Τοῖς ἀπὸ τοῦ ὄρους λίθοις ὁμοιωμένοι εἰσὶ τὰ ξύλινα,
 51 καὶ τὰ περίχρυσά, καὶ τὰ περιάργυρα, οἱ δὲ θεραπεύοντες
 52 αὐτὰ καταισχυρῇσονται.
 53 Πῶς οὖν νομιστέον ἢ κλητέον ὑπάρχειν αὐτοὺς θεοὺς, ἔτι
 54 δὲ καὶ αὐτῶν τῶν Χαλδαίων ἀτιμαζόντων αὐτά; Οἱ ὅταν
 55 ἴδωσιν ἐνεδὸν μὴ δυνάμενον λαλῆσαι, προσενεγκάμενοι τὸν
 56 Βῆλον, ἀξιοῦσι φωνῆσαι, ὡς δυνατοῦ ὄντος αὐτοῦ αἰσθῆσθαι.
 57 Καὶ οὐ δύνανται αὐτοὶ νοήσαντες καταλιπεῖν αὐτὰ, αἰσθησιν
 58 γὰρ οὐκ ἔχουσιν.
 59 Αἱ δὲ γυναῖκες περιθέμεναι σχοινία, ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς ἐγκά-
 60 θηνται, θυμῶσαι τὰ πίτυρα· ὅταν δέ τις αὐτῶν ἐφελκυσθεῖσα
 61 ὑπὸ τινος τῶν παραπορευομένων κοιμηθῇ, τὴν πλησίον ὀνει-
 62 δίξει, ὅτι οὐκ ἠξιώται ὥσπερ καὶ αὐτὴ, οὔτε τὸ σχοινίον
 63 αὐτῆς διερβάλλει. Πάντα τὰ γενόμενα ἐν αὐτοῖς ἐστὶ ψευδῆ·
 64 πῶς οὖν νομιστέον ἢ κλητέον ὡς θεοὺς αὐτοὺς ὑπάρχειν;
 65 Ὑπὸ τεκτόνων καὶ χρυσοχόων κατεσκευασμένα εἰσὶν·
 66 οὐθὲν ἄλλο μὴ γένηται, ἢ ὃ βούλονται οἱ τεχνίται αὐτὰ
 67 γενέσθαι. Αὐτοὶ τε οἱ κατασκευάζοντες αὐτὰ οὐ μὴ γένων-
 68 ται πολυχρόνιοι· πῶς τε δὴ μέλλει τὰ ὑπ' αὐτῶν κατα-
 69 σκευασθέντα;
 70 Κατέλιπον γὰρ ψεῦδη καὶ ὄνειδος τοῖς ἐπιγινομένοις.
 71 Ὅταν γὰρ ἐπέλθῃ ἐπ' αὐτὰ πόλεμος καὶ κακὰ, βουλευόνται
 72 πρὸς ἑαυτοὺς οἱ ἱερεῖς, ποῦ συναποκρυβῶσι μετ' αὐτῶν.
 73 Πῶς οὖν οὐκ ἔστιν αἰσθῆσθαι ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶ θεοί, οὐ οὔτε
 74 σώζουσιν ἑαυτοὺς ἐκ πολέμου, οὔτε ἐκ κακῶν; Ὑπάρχοντα
 75 γὰρ ξύλινα καὶ περίχρυσά καὶ περιάργυρα, γνωσθήσεται
 76 μετὰ ταῦτα ὅτι ἐστὶ ψευδῆ. Τοῖς ἔθνεσι πᾶσι τοῖς τε βασι-
 77 λεῦσι φανερόν ἐσται ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶ θεοὶ, ἀλλὰ ἔργα χειρῶν
 78 ἀνθρώπων, καὶ οὐδὲν Θεοῦ ἔργον ἐν αὐτοῖς ἐστί.
 79 52, 53 Τίνι οὖν γνωστέον ἐστὶν ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶ θεοί; Βασιλέα

²⁸ As for the things that are sacrificed unto them, their priests sell and abuse; in like manner their wives lay up part thereof in salt; but unto the poor and impotent they give nothing of it. ²⁹ Menstruous women and women in childbed eat their sacrifices: by these things ye may know that they are no gods: fear them not. ³⁰ For how can they be called gods? because women set meat before the gods of silver, gold, and wood. ³¹ And the priests sit in their temples, having their clothes rent, and their heads and beards shaven, and nothing upon their heads. ³² They roar and cry before their gods, as men do at the feast when one is dead.

³³ The priests also take off their garments, and clothe their wives and children. ³⁴ Whether it be evil that one doeth unto them, or good, they are not able to recompense it: they can neither set up a king, nor put him down. ³⁵ In like manner, they can neither give riches nor money: though a man make a vow unto them, and keep it not, they will not require it. ³⁶ They can save no man from death, neither deliver the weak from the mighty. ³⁷ They cannot restore a blind man to his sight, nor help any man in his distress. ³⁸ They can shew no mercy to the widow, nor do good to the fatherless.

³⁹ Their gods of wood, and which are overlaid with gold and silver, are like the stones that be hewn out of the mountain: they that worship them shall be confounded.

⁴⁰ How should a man then think and say that they are gods, when even the Chaldeans themselves dishonour them? ⁴¹ Who if they shall see one dumb that cannot speak, they bring him, and intreat Bel that he may speak, as though he were able to understand. ⁴² Yet they cannot understand this themselves, and leave them: for they have no knowledge.

⁴³ The women also with cords about them, sitting in the ways, burn bran for perfume: but if any of them, drawn by some that passeth by, lie with him, she reproacheth her fellow, that she was not thought as worthy as herself, nor her cord broken. ⁴⁴ Whatsoever is done among them is false: how may it then be thought or said that they are gods?

⁴⁵ They are made of carpenters and goldsmiths: they can be nothing else than the workmen will have them to be. ⁴⁶ And they themselves that made them can never continue long; how should then the things that are made of them be gods.

⁴⁷ For they left lies and reproaches to them that come after. ⁴⁸ For when there cometh any war or plague upon them, the priests consult with themselves, where they may be hidden with them. ⁴⁹ How then cannot men perceive that they be no gods, which can neither save themselves from war, nor from plague? ⁵⁰ For seeing they be but of wood, and overlaid with silver and gold, it shall be known hereafter that they are false: ⁵¹ and it shall manifestly appear to all nations and kings that they are no gods, but the works of men's hands, and that there is no work of God in them.

⁵² Who then may not know that they are no gods? ⁵³ For neither can they set up a king in

the land, nor give rain unto men. ⁵⁴ Neither can they judge their own cause, nor redress a wrong, being unable: for they are as crows between heaven and earth.

⁵⁵ Whereupon when fire falleth upon the house of gods of wood, or laid over with gold or silver, their priests will flee away, and escape: but they themselves shall be burned asunder like beams. ⁵⁶ Moreover they cannot withstand any king or enemies: how can it then be thought or said that they be gods? ⁵⁷ Neither are those gods of wood, and laid over with silver or gold, able to escape either from thieves or robbers. ⁵⁸ Whose gold, and silver, and garments wherewith they are clothed, they that are strong do take, and go away withal: neither are they able to help themselves.

⁵⁹ Therefore it is better to be a king that sheweth his power, or else a profitable vessel in an house, which the owner shall have use of, than such false gods; or to be a door in an house, to keep such things safe as be therein, than such false gods; or a pillar of wood in a palace, than such false gods.

⁶⁰ For sun, moon, and stars, being bright, and sent to do their offices, are obedient. ⁶¹ In like manner the lightning when it breaketh forth is easy to be seen; and after the same manner the wind bloweth in every country. ⁶² And when God commandeth the clouds to go over the whole world, they do as they are bidden. ⁶³ And the fire sent from above to consume hills and woods doeth as it is commanded: but these are like unto them neither in shew nor power.

⁶⁴ Wherefore it is neither to be supposed nor said that they are gods, seeing they are able neither to judge causes, nor to do good unto men. ⁶⁵ Knowing therefore that they are no gods, fear them not.

⁶⁶ For they can neither curse nor bless kings: ⁶⁷ neither can they shew signs in the heavens among the heathen, nor shine as the sun, nor give light as the moon. ⁶⁸ The beasts are better than they: for they can get under a covert, and help themselves. ⁶⁹ It is then by no means manifest unto us that they are gods: therefore fear them not.

⁷⁰ For as a scarecrow in a garden of cucumbers keepeth nothing: so are their gods of wood, and laid over with silver and gold. ⁷¹ And likewise their gods of wood, and laid over with silver and gold, are like to a white thorn in an orchard, that every bird sitteth upon; as also to a dead body, that is cast into the dark. ⁷² And ye shall know them to be no gods by the bright purple that rotteth upon them: and they themselves afterward shall be eaten, and shall be a reproach in the country.

⁷³ Better therefore is the just man that hath no idols: for he shall be far from reproach.

γὰρ χώρας οὐ μὴ ἀναστήσωσιν, οὔτε ὑετὸν ἀνθρώποις οὐ μὴ δώσι. Κρίσιν τε οὐ μὴ διακρίνωσιν ἑαυτῶν, οὐδὲ μὴ ῥύσων- 54
ται ἀδίκημα, ἀδύνατοι ὄντες· ὥσπερ γὰρ κορῶναι ἀναμέσον τοῦ οὐρανοῦ καὶ τῆς γῆς.

Καὶ γὰρ ὅταν ἐμπέσῃ εἰς οἰκίαν θεῶν ξυλίνων ἡ περι- 55
χρύσων ἢ περιαργύρων πῦρ, οἱ μὲν ἱερεῖς αὐτῶν φεύγονται καὶ διασωθήσονται, αὐτοὶ δὲ ὥσπερ δοκοὶ μέσοι κατακαυθή-
σονται. Βασιλεῖ δὲ καὶ πολεμίοις οὐ μὴ ἀντιστῶσι· πῶς 56
οὖν ἐκδεκτέον ἢ νομιστέον ὅτι εἰσὶ θεοί; Οὔτε ἀπὸ κλεπτῶν, 57
οὔτε ἀπὸ ληστῶν οὐ μὴ διασωθῶσι θεοὶ ξύλινοι, καὶ περιάρ-
γυροι, καὶ περίχρυσοι· ὧν οἱ ἰσχύοντες περιελούνται τὸ 58
χρυσίον καὶ τὸ ἀργύριον, καὶ τὸν ἱματισμὸν τὸν περικείμενον
αὐτοῖς ἀπελεύσονται ἔχοντες, οὔτε ἑαυτοῖς οὐ μὴ βοηθή-
σωσιν.

Ὡστε κρεῖσσον εἶναι βασιλέα ἐπιδεικνύμενον τὴν ἑαυτοῦ 59
ἀνδρείαν, ἢ σκεῦος ἐν οἰκίᾳ χρήσιμον ἐφ' ᾧ κεχρήσεται ὁ
κεκτημένος, ἢ οἱ ψευδεῖς θεοί· ἢ καὶ θύρα ἐν οἰκίᾳ διασω-
ζουσα τὰ ἐν αὐτῇ ὄντα, ἢ οἱ ψευδεῖς θεοί· καὶ ξύλιнос
στύλος ἐν βασιλείοις, ἢ οἱ ψευδεῖς θεοί.

Ἡλιος μὲν γὰρ καὶ σελήνη καὶ ἄστρα ὄντα λαμπρὰ, καὶ 60
ἀποστελλόμενα ἐπὶ χρείας, εὐήκοά εἰσιν. Ὡσαύτως καὶ 61
ἀστραπὴ ὅταν ἐπιφανῇ, εὐοπτός ἐστι· τὸ δ' αὐτὸ καὶ
πνεῦμα ἐν πάσῃ χώρᾳ πνεῖ. Καὶ νεφέλαις ὅταν ἐπιταγῇ 62
ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐπιπορεύεσθαι ἐφ' ὅλην τὴν οἰκουμένην, συν-
τελοῦσι τὸ ταχθέν. Τό, τε πῦρ ἐξαποσταλὲν ἄνωθεν ἐξανα- 63
λῶσαι ὄρη καὶ δρυμοὺς, ποιεῖ τὸ συνταχθέν· ταῦτα δὲ οὔτε
ταῖς εἰδέαις οὔτε ταῖς δυνάμεσιν αὐτῶν ἀφωμοιωμένα ἐστίν.

Ὅθεν οὔτε νομιστέον οὔτε κλητέον ὑπάρχειν αὐτοὺς 64
θεοὺς, οὐ δυνατῶν ὄντων αὐτῶν οὔτε κρίσιν κρίναι, οὔτε εὖ
ποιῆσαι ἀνθρώποις. Γινόντες οὖν ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶ θεοὶ, μὴ 65
φοβηθῇτε αὐτούς·

Οὔτε γὰρ βασιλεύουσιν οὐ μὴ καταράσσονται, οὔτε μὴ 66
εὐλογήσωσι. Σημεῖά τε ἐν ἔθνεσιν ἐν οὐρανῷ οὐ μὴ δεῖ- 67
ξωσιν, οὐδὲ ὡς ὁ ἥλιος λάμπουσιν, οὔτε φωτιοῦσιν ὡς ἡ
σελήνη. Τὰ θηρία αὐτῶν ἐστὶ κρείττω, ἢ δύνανται ἐκφυ- 68
γόντα εἰς σκέπην ἑαυτὰ ὠφελεῖν. Κατ' οὐδένα οὖν 69
τρόπον ἡμῖν ἐστὶ φανερόν ὅτι εἰσὶ θεοί· διὸ μὴ φοβηθῇτε
αὐτούς.

Ὡσπερ γὰρ ἐν σικκηράτῳ προβασκάνιον οὐδὲν φυλάσσει, 70
οὕτως οἱ θεοὶ αὐτῶν εἰσὶ ξύλινοι καὶ περίχρυσοι καὶ περιάρ-
γυροι. Τὸν αὐτὸν τρόπον καὶ τῇ ἐν κήπῳ ῥάμνῳ, ἐφ' ἧς 71
πᾶν ὄρνεον ἐπικάθεται, ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ νεκρῷ ἐρριμμένῳ ἐν
σκοτει ἀφωμοιώνται οἱ θεοὶ αὐτῶν ξύλινοι καὶ περίχρυσοι
καὶ περιάργυροι. Ἀπὸ τε τῆς πορφύρας καὶ τῆς μαρμάρου 72
τῆς ἐπ' αὐτοὺς σηπομένης γνωσθήσονται ὅτι οὐκ εἰσὶ θεοί·
αὐτὰ τε ἐξ ὑστέρου βρωθήσονται, καὶ ἔσται ὄνειδος ἐν τῇ
χώρᾳ.

Κρεῖσσον οὖν ἄνθρωπος δίκαιος οὐκ ἔχων εἰδωλα, ἔσται 73
γὰρ μακρὰν ἀπὸ ὀνειδισμοῦ.

ΤΩΝ ΤΡΙΩΝ ΠΑΙΔΩΝ ΑΙΝΕΣΙΣ.

- ΚΑΙ συστὰς Ἀζαρίας προσηύξατο οὕτως· καὶ ἀνοίξας τὸ στομά αὐτοῦ ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ πυρὸς, εἶπεν,
- 2 Εὐλογητὸς εἶ Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, καὶ αἰνετὸς, καὶ δεδοξασμένον τὸ ὄνομά σου εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.
- 3 Ὅτι δίκαιος εἶ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν οἷς ἐποίησας, καὶ πάντα τὰ ἔργα σου ἀληθινὰ, καὶ εὐθεῖαι αἱ ὁδοί σου, καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ κρίσεις σου ἀλήθεια.
- 4 Καὶ κρίματα ἀληθείας ἐποίησας κατὰ πάντα ἃ ἐπήγαγες ἡμῖν, καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν τὴν ἁγίαν τὴν τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν Ἱερουσαλήμ· ὅτι ἐν ἀληθείᾳ καὶ κρίσει ἐπήγαγες ταῦτα
- 5 πάντα διὰ τὰς ἁμαρτίας ἡμῶν. Ὅτι ἡμάρτομεν καὶ ἠνομή-
6 σαμεν ἀποστήναι ἀπὸ σοῦ, καὶ ἐξημάρτομεν ἐν πᾶσι, καὶ τῶν ἐντολῶν σου οὐκ ἠκούσαμεν, οὐδὲ συνετηρήσαμεν, οὐδὲ
- 7 ἐποιήσαμεν καθὼς ἐνετείλω ἡμῖν, ἵνα εὖ ἡμῖν γένηται. Καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἐπήγαγες ἡμῖν, καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἐποίησας ἡμῖν, ἐν ἀληθινῇ κρίσει ἐποίησας.
- 8 Καὶ παρέδωκας ἡμᾶς εἰς χεῖρας ἐχθρῶν ἀνόμων, καὶ ἐχθίστων ἀποστατῶν, καὶ βασιλεῖ ἀδίκῳ καὶ πονηροτάτῳ
- 9 παρὰ πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν. Καὶ νῦν οὐκ ἔστιν ἡμῖν ἀνοίξαι τὸ στόμα ἡμῶν· αἰσχύνῃ καὶ ὄνειδος ἐγενήθημεν τοῖς δούλοις σου, καὶ τοῖς σεβομένοις σε.
- 10 Μὴ δὴ παραδώῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς τέλος διὰ τὸ ὄνομά σου, καὶ
- 11 μὴ διασκεδάσῃς τὴν διαθήκην σου, καὶ μὴ ἀποστήσῃς τὸ ἔλεός σου ἀφ' ἡμῶν, διὰ Ἀβραάμ τὸν ἡγαπημένον ὑπὸ σοῦ, καὶ διὰ Ἰσαὰκ τὸν δούλόν σου, καὶ Ἰσραὴλ τὸν ἅγιόν σου,
- 12 οἷς ἐλάλησας πληθύναι τὸ σπέρμα αὐτῶν, ὥς τὰ ἄστρα τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, καὶ ὥς τὴν ἄμμον τὴν παρὰ τὸ χεῖλος τῆς θαλάσσης. Ὅτι, δέσποτα, ἐσμικρύνθημεν παρὰ πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ ἐσμέν ταπεινοὶ ἐν πάσῃ τῇ γῇ σήμερον, διὰ τὰς
- 13 ἁμαρτίας ἡμῶν. Καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν τῷ καιρῷ τούτῳ ἄρχων καὶ προφήτης καὶ ἡγούμενος, οὐδὲ ὀλοκαύτωσις, οὐδὲ θυσία, οὐδὲ προσφορά, οὐδὲ θυμίαμα, οὐδὲ τόπος τοῦ καρπώσαι ἐναντίον σου, καὶ εὐρεῖν ἔλεος.
- 15 Ἀλλ' ἐν ψυχῇ συντετριμμένῃ, καὶ πνεύματι ταπεινώσεως
- 16 προσδεχθείμεν, ὥς ἐν ὀλοκαύτῳ κριῶν καὶ ταύρων, καὶ ἐν μυριάσιν ἀρνῶν πiónων, οὕτως γενέσθω ἡ θυσία ἡμῶν ἐνώπιόν σου σήμερον, καὶ ἐκτελέσαι ὀπισθέν σου· ὅτι οὐκ ἔσται αἰσχύνῃ τοῖς πεποιθόσιν ἐπὶ σοί.
- 17 Καὶ νῦν ἐξακολουθοῦμεν ἐν ὅλῃ καρδίᾳ, καὶ φοβούμεθά
- 18 σε, καὶ ζητοῦμεν τὸ πρόσωπόν σου. Μὴ καταισχύνης ἡμᾶς,

THEN Azarias stood up, and prayed on this manner; and opening his mouth in the midst of the fire said,

² Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers: thy name is worthy to be praised and glorified for evermore: ³ for thou art righteous in all the things that thou hast done to us: yea, true are all thy works, thy ways are right, and all thy judgments truth.

⁴ In all the things that thou hast brought upon us, and upon the holy city of our fathers, even Jerusalem, thou hast executed true judgment: for according to truth and judgment didst thou bring all these things upon us because of our sins. ⁵ For we have sinned and committed iniquity, departing from thee. ⁶ In all things have we trespassed, and not obeyed thy commandments, nor kept them, neither done as thou hast commanded us, that it might go well with us. ⁷ Wherefore all that thou hast brought upon us, and every thing that thou hast done to us, thou hast done in true judgment.

⁸ And thou didst deliver us into the hands of lawless enemies, most hateful forsakers of God, and to an unjust king, and the most wicked in all the world. ⁹ And now we cannot open our mouths, we are become a shame and reproach to thy servants, and to them that worship thee.

¹⁰ Yet deliver us not up wholly, for thy name's sake, neither disannul thou thy covenant: ¹¹ and cause not thy mercy to depart from us, for thy beloved Abraham's sake, for thy servant Isaac's sake, and for thy holy Israel's sake; ¹² to whom thou hast spoken and promised, that thou wouldest multiply their seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand that lieth upon the seashore. ¹³ For we, O Lord, are become less than any nation, and be kept under this day in all the world because of our sins. ¹⁴ Neither is there at this time prince, or prophet, or leader, or burnt offering, or sacrifice, or oblation, or incense, or place to sacrifice before thee, and to find mercy.

¹⁵ Nevertheless in a contrite heart and an humble spirit let us be accepted. ¹⁶ Like as in the burnt offerings of rams and bullocks, and like as in ten thousands of fat lambs: so let our sacrifice be in thy sight this day, and grant that we may wholly go after thee: for they shall not be confounded that put their trust in thee.

¹⁷ And now we follow thee with all our heart, we fear thee, and seek thy face. ¹⁸ Put

us not to shame: but deal with us after thy lovingkindness, and according to the multitude of thy mercies.

¹⁹ Deliver us also according to thy marvellous works, and give glory to thy name, O Lord: and let all them that do thy servants hurt be ashamed; ²⁰ and let them be confounded in all their power and might, and let their strength be broken; ²¹ and let them know that thou art Lord, the only God, and glorious over the whole world.

²² And the king's servants, that put them in, ceased not to make the oven hot with rosin, pitch, tow, and small wood; ²³ so that the flame streamed forth above the furnace forty and nine cubits. ²⁴ And it passed through, and burned those Chaldeans it found about the furnace.

²⁵ But the angel of the Lord came down into the oven together with Azarias and his fellows, and smote the flame of the fire out of the oven; ²⁶ and made the midst of the furnace as it had been a moist whistling wind, so that the fire touched them not at all, neither hurt nor troubled them.

²⁷ Then the three, as out of one mouth, praised, glorified, and blessed, God in the furnace, saying,

²⁸ Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ²⁹ And blessed is thy glorious and holy name: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever.

³⁰ Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holy glory: and to be praised and glorified above all for ever. ³¹ Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and sittest upon the cherubim: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ³² Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom: and to be praised and glorified above all for ever. ³³ Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven: and above all to be praised and glorified for ever.

³⁴ O all ye works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁵ O ye heavens, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁶ O ye angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁷ O all ye waters that be above the heaven, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ³⁸ O all ye powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever.

³⁹ O ye sun and moon, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁰ O ye stars of heaven, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴¹ O every shower and dew, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴² O all ye winds, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴³ O ye fire and heat, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever.

⁴⁴ O ye nights and days, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁵ O ye light and darkness, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁴⁶ O ye frost and heat, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt

ἀλλὰ ποιήσον μεθ' ἡμῶν κατὰ τὴν ἐπιείκειάν σου, καὶ κατὰ τὸ πλῆθος τοῦ ἐλέους σου.

Καὶ ἐξελοῦ ἡμᾶς κατὰ τὰ θαυμάσιά σου, καὶ δὸς δόξαν 19 τῷ ὀνόματί σου, Κύριε· καὶ ἐντραπήθησαν πάντες οἱ ἐνδεικνύμενοι τοῖς δούλοις σου κακὰ, καὶ καταισχυνθήθησαν ἀπὸ 20 πάσης τῆς δυναστείας, καὶ ἡ ἰσχὺς αὐτῶν συντριβείη, καὶ 21 γνῶτωσαν ὅτι σὺ εἶ Κύριος, Θεὸς μόνος, καὶ ἔνδοξος ἐφ' ὅλην τὴν οἰκουμένην.

Καὶ οὐ διέλιπον οἱ ἐμβάλλοντες αὐτοὺς ὑπηρέται τοῦ 22 βασιλέως, καίοντες τὴν κάμινον νάφθαν καὶ πίσσαν καὶ στιππύον καὶ κληματίδα. Καὶ διεχείτο ἡ φλόξ ἐπάνω τῆς 23 καμίνου ἐπὶ πῆχεις τεσσαρακονταεννέα. Καὶ διώδενσε, 24 καὶ ἐνεπύρισεν οὓς εὔρε περι τὴν κάμινον τῶν Χαλδαίων.

Ὁ δὲ ἄγγελος Κυρίου συγκατέβη ἅμα τοῖς περι τὸν 25 Ἀζαρίαν εἰς τὴν κάμινον, καὶ ἐξετίναξε τὴν φλόγα τοῦ πυρὸς ἐκ τῆς καμίνου, καὶ ἐποίησε τὸ μέσον τῆς καμίνου, 26 ὡς πνεῦμα δρόσου διασπρίζον· καὶ οὐχ ἤψατο αὐτῶν τὸ καθόλου τὸ πῦρ; καὶ οὐκ ἐλύπησεν, οὐδὲ παρηνώχλησεν αὐτοὺς.

Τότε οἱ τρεῖς ὡς ἐξ ἑνὸς στόματος ὕμνον, καὶ ἐδόξαζον, 27 καὶ ἠλόγουν τὸν Θεὸν ἐν τῇ καμίνῳ, λέγοντες,

Εὐλογητὸς εἶ Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, καὶ 28 αἰνετὸς, καὶ ὑπερυψούμενος εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Καὶ εὐλογη- 29 μένον τὸ ὄνομα τῆς δόξης σου τὸ ἅγιον, καὶ ὑπεραινετὸν καὶ ὑπερυψούμενον εἰς πάντας τοὺς αἰῶνας.

Εὐλογημένος εἶ ἐν τῷ ναῷ τῆς ἁγίας δόξης σου, καὶ ὑπερ- 30 υμνητὸς καὶ υπερένδοξος εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογημένος εἶ 31 ὁ ἐπιβλέπων ἀβύσσους, καθήμενος ἐπὶ χερουβὶμ, καὶ αἰνετὸς καὶ ὑπερυψούμενος εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογημένος εἶ ἐπὶ 32 θρόνου τῆς βασιλείας σου, καὶ ὑπερυμνητὸς καὶ ὑπερυμνούμενος εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογητὸς εἶ ἐν τῷ στερεώματι 33 τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, καὶ ὑμνητὸς καὶ δεδοξασμένος εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.

Εὐλογεῖτε πάντα τὰ ἔργα Κυρίου τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε 34 καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε οὐρανοὶ 35 τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε ἄγγελοι Κυρίου τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερ- 36 υψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε ὕδατα καὶ πάντα 37 τὰ ὑπεράνω τοῦ οὐρανοῦ τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτω πᾶσα ἡ δύναμις Κυρίου 38 τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.

Εὐλογεῖτε ἥλιος καὶ σελήνη τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ 39 ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε ἄστρα τοῦ 40 οὐρανοῦ τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτω πᾶς ὄμβρος καὶ δρόσος τὸν Κύριον, 41 ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε 42 πάντα τὰ πνεύματα τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε πῦρ καὶ καῖμα τὸν 43 Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.

Εὐλογεῖτε νύκτες καὶ ἡμέραι τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε, καὶ 46 ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε φῶς καὶ 47 σκότος τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε ψύχος καὶ καῖμα τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε 44

49 καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε πάχναι
καὶ χιόνες τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς
50 τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε ἀστραπαὶ καὶ νεφέλαι τὸν Κύριον,
ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.

51 Εὐλογεῖτω ἡ γῆ τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτω καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτω
52 αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε ὄρη καὶ βουνοὶ τὸν
Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.
53 Εὐλογεῖτε πάντα τὰ φυόμενα ἐν τῇ γῇ τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε
καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.

55 Εὐλογεῖτε θάλασσα καὶ ποταμοὶ τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ
54 ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε αἱ πηγαὶ
τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.
56 Εὐλογεῖτε κῆτη καὶ πάντα τὰ κινούμενα ἐν τοῖς ὕδασι τὸν
Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.
57 Εὐλογεῖτε πάντα τὰ πετεινὰ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ τὸν Κύριον,
58 ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε
πάντα τὰ θηρία καὶ τὰ κτήνη τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπε-
ρψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.

59 Εὐλογεῖτε υἱοὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ
60 ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε Ἰσραὴλ τὸν
Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας.

61 Εὐλογεῖτε ἱερεῖς τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε
62 αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε δοῦλοι τὸν Κύριον,
63 ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε
πνεύματα καὶ ψυχὰς δικαίων τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερ-
64 ψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Εὐλογεῖτε ὅσιοι καὶ ταπει-
νοὶ τῇ καρδίᾳ τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς
τοὺς αἰῶνας.

65 Εὐλογεῖτε Ἀνανία, Ἀζαρία, Μισαὴλ τὸν Κύριον, ὑμνεῖτε
καὶ ὑπερυψοῦτε αὐτὸν εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας· ὅτι ἐξείλετο ἡμᾶς ἐξ
ᾧδου, καὶ ἐκ χειρὸς θανάτου ἔσωσεν ἡμᾶς· καὶ ἐρρύσατο
ἡμᾶς ἐκ μέσου καμίνου καιομένης φλογὸς, καὶ ἐκ μέσου
66 πυρὸς ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς. Ἐξομολογεῖσθε τῷ Κυρίῳ ὅτι
χρηστὸς, ὅτι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ.

67 Εὐλογεῖτε πάντες οἱ σεβόμενοι τὸν Κύριον τὸν Θεὸν τῶν
θεῶν, ὑμνεῖτε καὶ ἐξομολογεῖσθε, ὅτι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸ ἔλεος
αὐτοῦ.

him above all for ever. ⁴⁹ O ye frost and snow,
bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above
all for ever. ⁵⁰ O ye lightnings and clouds,
bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above
all for ever.

⁵¹ O let the earth bless the Lord: praise and
exalt him above all for ever. ⁵² O ye moun-
tains and little hills, bless ye the Lord: praise
and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵³ O all ye
things that grow on the earth, bless ye the
Lord: praise and exalt him above all for ever.

⁵⁵ O ye seas and rivers, bless ye the Lord:
praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁴ O ye
fountains, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt
him above all for ever. ⁵⁶ O ye whales, and all
that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord:
praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁷ O all
ye fowls of the air, bless ye the Lord: praise
and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁸ O all ye
beasts and cattle, bless ye the Lord: praise
and exalt him above all for ever.

⁵⁹ O ye children of men, bless ye the Lord:
praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁶⁰ O
Israel, bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him
above all for ever.

⁶¹ O ye priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁶² O
ye servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁶³ O
ye spirits and souls of the righteous, bless ye
the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for
ever. ⁶⁴ O ye holy and humble men of heart,
bless ye the Lord: praise and exalt him above
all for ever.

⁶⁵ O Ananias, Azarias, and Misael, bless ye
the Lord: praise and exalt him above all for
ever: for he hath delivered us from hell, and
saved us from the hand of death, and delivered
us out of the midst of the furnace and burning
flame: even out of the midst of the fire hath
he delivered us. ⁶⁶ O give thanks unto the
Lord, because he is gracious: for his mercy
endureth for ever.

⁶⁷ O all ye that worship the Lord, bless the
God of gods, praise him and give him thanks:
for his mercy endureth for ever.

Σ Ω Σ Α Ν Ν Α.

THERE dwelt a man in Babylon, called Joacim: ²and he took a wife, whose name was Susanna, the daughter of Chelcias, a very fair woman, and one that feared the Lord. ³Her parents also were righteous, and taught their daughter according to the law of Moses. ⁴Now Joacim was a very rich man, and had a fair garden joining unto his house; and to him resorted the Jews; because he was more honourable than all others.

⁵The same year were appointed two of the ancients of the people to be judges, such as the Lord spake of, that wickedness came from Babylon from ancient judges, who seemed to govern the people. ⁶These kept much at Joacim's house, and all that had any suits in law came unto them.

⁷Now when the people departed away at noon, Susanna went into her husband's garden to walk. ⁸And the two elders saw her going in every day, and walking; so that their lust was inflamed toward her. ⁹And they perverted their own mind, and turned away their eyes, that they might not look unto heaven, nor remember just judgments. ¹⁰And albeit they both were wounded with her love, yet durst not one shew another his grief. ¹¹For they were ashamed to declare their lust, that they desired to have to do with her. ¹²Yet they watched diligently from day to day to see her.

¹³And the one said to the other, Let us now go home: for it is dinner time. ¹⁴So when they were gone out, they parted the one from the other, and turning back again they came to the same place; and after that they had asked one another the cause, they acknowledged their lust: then appointed they a time both together, when they might find her alone.

¹⁵And it fell out, as they watched a fit time, she went in as before with two maids only, and she was desirous to wash herself in the garden: for it was hot. ¹⁶And there was nobody there save the two elders, that had hid themselves, and watched her. ¹⁷Then she said to her maids, Bring me oil and washing balls, and shut the garden doors, that I may wash.

¹⁸And they did as she bade them, and shut the garden doors, and went out themselves at private doors to fetch the things that she had commanded them: but they saw not the elders, because they were hid.

ΚΑΙ ἦν ἀνὴρ οἰκῶν ἐν Βαβυλῶνι, καὶ ὄνομα αὐτῷ Ἰωακείμ. Καὶ ἔλαβε γυναῖκα ἣ ὄνομα Σωσάννα, θυγάτηρ Χελκίου, 2 καλὴ σφόδρα, καὶ φοβονμένη τὸν Κύριον. Καὶ οἱ γονεῖς αὐ- 3 τῆς δίκαιοι, καὶ ἐδίδαξαν τὴν θυγατέρα αὐτῶν κατὰ τὸν νόμον Μωυσῆ. Καὶ ἦν Ἰωακείμ πλούσιος σφόδρα, καὶ ἦν αὐτῷ 4 παράδεισος γειννίων τῷ οἴκῳ αὐτοῦ· καὶ πρὸς αὐτὸν προσή- γοντο οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, διὰ τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν ἐνδοξότερον πάντων.

Καὶ ἀπεδείχθησαν δύο πρεσβύτεροι ἐκ τοῦ λαοῦ κριταὶ 5 ἐν τῷ ἐνιαυτῷ ἐκείνῳ, περὶ ὧν ἐλάλησεν ὁ δεσπότης, ὅτι ἐξῆλθεν ἀνομία ἐκ Βαβυλῶνος ἐκ πρεσβυτέρων κριτῶν, οἱ ἐδόκουν κυβερνᾶν τὸν λαόν. Οὗτοι προσεκαρτέρουν ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ 6 Ἰωακείμ, καὶ ἤρχοντο πρὸς αὐτοὺς πάντες οἱ κρινόμενοι.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ἡνίκα ἀπέτρεχεν ὁ λαὸς μέσον ἡμέρας, εἰσε- 7 πορεύετο Σωσάννα, καὶ περιεπάτει ἐν τῷ παραδείσῳ τοῦ ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς. Καὶ ἐθεώρουν αὐτὴν οἱ δύο πρεσβύτεροι 8 καθ' ἡμέραν εἰσπορευομένην, καὶ περιπατοῦσαν, καὶ ἐγένοντο ἐν ἐπιθυμίᾳ αὐτῆς, καὶ διέστρεψαν τὸν ἑαυτῶν νοῦν, καὶ 9 ἐξέκλιναν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῶν, τοῦ μὴ βλέπειν εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν, μηδὲ μνημονεύειν κριμάτων δικαίων. Καὶ ἦσαν 10 ἀμφοτέροι κατανευγμένοι περὶ αὐτῆς, καὶ οὐκ ἀνήγγειλαν ἀλλήλοις τὴν ὁδύνην ἑαυτῶν. Ὅτι ἡσχύνοντο ἀναγγεῖλαι 11 τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἤθελον συγγενέσθαι αὐτῇ. Καὶ 12 παρετηροῦσαν φιλοτίμως καθ' ἡμέραν ὁρᾶν αὐτήν.

Καὶ εἶπαν ἕτερος τῷ ἑτέρῳ, πορευθῶμεν δὴ εἰς οἶκον, 13 ὅτι ἀρίστου ὥρα ἐστί. Καὶ ἐξελθόντες διεχωρίσθησαν ἀπ' 14 ἀλλήλων, καὶ ἀνακάμφαντες ἦλθον ἐπιτοαυτὸ, καὶ ἀνετά- ζοντες ἀλλήλους τὴν αἰτίαν, ὡμολόγησαν τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν αὐτῶν· καὶ τότε κοινῇ συνετάξαντο καιρὸν, ὅτε αὐτὴν δυνή- σονται εὐρεῖν μόνην.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ἐν τῷ παρατηρεῖν αὐτοὺς ἡμέραν εὐθετον, 15 εἰσῆλθέ ποτε καθὼς χθὲς καὶ τρίτης ἡμέρας μετὰ δύο μόνων κορασίων, καὶ ἐπεθύμησε λούσασθαι ἐν τῷ παραδείσῳ, ὅτι καύμα ἦν. Καὶ οὐκ ἦν οὐδεὶς ἐκεῖ πλὴν οἱ δύο πρεσβύτε- 16 ροι κεκρυμμένοι, καὶ παρατηροῦντες αὐτήν. Καὶ εἶπε τοῖς 17 κορασίοις, ἐνέγκατε δὴ μοι ἔλαιον καὶ σμήγματα, καὶ τὰς θύρας τοῦ παραδείσου κλείσατε, ὥπως λούσωμαι.

Καὶ ἐποίησαν καθὼς εἶπε, καὶ ἀπέκλεισαν τὰς θύρας τοῦ 18 παραδείσου, καὶ ἐξῆλθαν κατὰ τὰς πλαγίας θύρας, ἐνέγκαι τὰ προστεταγμένα αὐταῖς, καὶ οὐκ εἶδον τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους, ὅτι ἦσαν κεκρυμμένοι.

19 Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἐξήλθοσαν τὰ κοράσια, καὶ ἀνέστησαν
 20 οἱ δύο πρεσβύτει, καὶ ἐπέδραμον αὐτῇ, καὶ εἶπον, ἰδοὺ αἱ
 θύραι τοῦ παραδείσου κέκλεινται, καὶ οὐδεὶς θεωρεῖ ἡμᾶς, καὶ
 ἐν ἐπιθυμίᾳ σου ἐσμέν· διὸ συγκατάθου ἡμῖν, καὶ γενοῦ μεθ'
 21 ἡμῶν. Εἰ δὲ μὴ, καταμαρτυρήσομέν σου, ὅτι ἦν μετὰ σοῦ
 νεανίσκος, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἐξαπέστειλας τὰ κοράσια ἀπὸ σοῦ.
 22 Καὶ ἀνεστέναξε Σωσάννα, καὶ εἶπε, στενά μοι πάντοθεν·
 ἐάν τε γὰρ τοῦτο πράξω, θάνατός μοι ἐστίν· ἐάν τε μὴ
 23 πράξω, οὐκ ἐκφεύξομαι τὰς χεῖρας ὑμῶν. Αἰρετώτερόν μοι
 ἐστὶ μὴ πράξασαν ἐμπεσεῖν εἰς τὰς χεῖρας ὑμῶν, ἢ ἁμαρτεῖν
 24 ἐνώπιον Κυρίου. Καὶ ἀνεβόησε φωνῇ μεγάλῃ Σωσάννα·
 ἐβόησαν δὲ καὶ οἱ δύο πρεσβύτει κατέναντι αὐτῆς.
 25 Καὶ δραμὼν ὁ εἷς, ἤνοιξε τὰς θύρας τοῦ παραδείσου.
 26 Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσαν τὴν κραυγὴν ἐν τῷ παραδείσῳ οἱ ἐκ τῆς
 οἰκίας, εἰσεπήδησαν διὰ τῆς πλαγίας θύρας ἰδεῖν τὸ συμβε-
 27 βηκὸς αὐτῇ. Ἦνικά δὲ εἶπαν οἱ πρεσβύτει τοὺς λόγους
 αὐτῶν, κατησχύνθησαν οἱ δοῦλοι σφόδρα, ὅτι πώποτε οὐκ
 ἐρρήθη λόγος τοιοῦτος περὶ Σωσάννης.
 28 Καὶ ἐγένετο τῇ ἐπαύριον, ὡς συνήλθεν ὁ λαὸς πρὸς τὸν
 ἄνδρα αὐτῆς Ἰωακείμ, ἦλθον οἱ δύο πρεσβύτει πλήρεις τῆς
 29 ἀνόμου ἐννοίας κατὰ Σωσάννης, τοῦ θανατῶσαι αὐτήν, καὶ
 εἶπαν ἔμπροσθεν τοῦ λαοῦ, ἀποστείλατε ἐπὶ Σωσάνναν
 θυγατέρα Χελκίου, ἣ ἐστὶ γυνὴ Ἰωακείμ· οἱ δὲ ἀπέστειλαν.
 30 Καὶ ἦλθεν αὐτὴ, καὶ οἱ γονεῖς αὐτῆς, καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῆς,
 καὶ πάντες οἱ συγγενεῖς αὐτῆς.
 31 Ἡ δὲ Σωσάννα ἦν τρυφερὰ σφόδρα, καὶ καλὴ τῷ εἶδει.
 32 Οἱ δὲ παράνομοι ἐκέλευσαν ἀποκαλυφθῆναι αὐτήν, ἣν γὰρ
 κατακεκαλυμμένη, ὅπως ἐμπλησθῶσι τοῦ κάλλους αὐτῆς.
 33 Ἐκλαίον δὲ οἱ παρ' αὐτῆς, καὶ πάντες οἱ ἰδόντες αὐτήν.
 34 Ἀναστάντες δὲ οἱ δύο πρεσβύτει ἐν μέσῳ τῷ λαῷ, ἔθηκαν
 35 τὰς χεῖρας ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτῆς. Ἡ δὲ κλαίουσα ἀνέ-
 βλεψεν εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν, ὅτι ἦν ἡ καρδία αὐτῆς πεποιθυῖα
 ἐπὶ Κυρίῳ.
 36 Εἶπον δὲ οἱ πρεσβύτει, περιπατούντων ἡμῶν ἐν τῷ
 παραδείσῳ μόνων, εἰσῆλθεν αὕτη μετὰ δύο παιδισκῶν, καὶ
 ἀπέκλεισε τὰς θύρας τοῦ παραδείσου, καὶ ἀπέλυσε τὰς
 37 παιδίσκας. Καὶ ἦλθε πρὸς αὐτήν νεανίσκος ὃς ἦν κεκρυμ-
 38 μένος, καὶ ἀνέπεσε μετ' αὐτῆς. Ἡμεῖς δὲ ὄντες ἐν τῇ γωνίᾳ
 τοῦ παραδείσου, ἰδόντες τὴν ἀνομίαν, ἐδράμομεν ἐπ' αὐτούς.
 39 Καὶ ἰδόντες συγγινομένους αὐτοὺς, ἐκείνου μὲν οὐκ
 ἠδυνήθημεν ἐγκρατεῖς γενέσθαι, διὰ τὸ ἰσχύειν αὐτὸν ὑπὲρ
 40 ἡμᾶς, καὶ ἀνοίξαντα τὰς θύρας ἐκπεπηδηκέναι. Ταύτης δὲ
 ἐπιλαβόμενοι, ἐπηρωτῶμεν, τίς ἦν ὁ νεανίσκος· καὶ οὐκ
 41 ἠθέλησεν ἀγγεῖλαι ἡμῖν ταῦτα μαρτυροῦμεν. Καὶ ἐπί-
 στευσεν αὐτοῖς ἡ συναγωγὴ ὡς πρεσβυτέροις τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ
 κριταῖς· καὶ κατέκριναν αὐτήν ἀποθανεῖν.
 42 Ἀνεβόησε δὲ φωνῇ μεγάλῃ Σωσάννα, καὶ εἶπεν, ὁ Θεὸς
 ὁ αἰώνιος, ὁ τῶν κρυπτῶν γνώστης, ὁ εἰδὼς τὰ πάντα πρὶν
 43 γενέσεως αὐτῶν, σὺ ἐπίστασαι ὅτι ψευδῇ μου κατεμαρ-
 τύρησαν· καὶ ἰδοὺ ἀποθνήσκω μὴ ποιήσασα μηδὲν ὧν οὗτοι
 44 ἐπονηρέυσαντο κατ' ἐμοῦ. Καὶ εἰσήκουσε Κύριος τῆς
 φωνῆς αὐτῆς.

¹⁹ Now when the maids were gone forth, the two elders rose up, and ran unto her, saying, Behold, the garden doors are shut, that no man can see us, and we are in love with thee; therefore consent unto us, and lie with us. ²¹ If thou wilt not, we will bear witness against thee, that a young man was with thee: and therefore thou didst send away thy maids from thee.

²² Then Susanna sighed, and said, I am straitened on every side: for if I do this thing, it is death unto me: and if I do it not, I cannot escape your hands. ²³ It is better for me to fall into your hands, and not do it, than to sin in the sight of the Lord. ²⁴ With that Susanna cried with a loud voice: and the two elders cried out against her.

²⁵ Then ran the one, and opened the garden door. ²⁶ So when the servants of the house heard the cry in the garden, they rushed in at a private door, to see what was done unto her. ²⁷ But when the elders had declared their matter, the servants were greatly ashamed: for there was never such a report made of Susanna.

²⁸ And it came to pass the next day, when the people were assembled to her husband Joacim, the two elders came also full of mischievous imagination against Susanna to put her to death; ²⁹ and said before the people, Send for Susanna, the daughter of Chelcias, Joacim's wife. And so they sent. ³⁰ So she came with her father and mother, her children, and all her kindred.

³¹ Now Susanna was a very delicate woman, and beauteous to behold. ³² And these wicked men commanded to uncover her face (for she was covered), that they might be filled with her beauty. ³³ Therefore her friends and all that saw her wept.

³⁴ Then the two elders stood up in the midst of the people, and laid their hands upon her head. ³⁵ And she weeping looked up toward heaven: for her heart trusted in the Lord.

³⁶ And the elders said, As we walked in the garden alone, this woman came in with two maids, and shut the garden doors, and sent the maids away. ³⁷ Then a young man, who there was hid, came unto her, and lay with her. ³⁸ Then we that stood in a corner of the garden, seeing this wickedness, ran unto them.

³⁹ And when we saw them together, the man we could not hold: for he was stronger than we, and opened the door, and leaped out. ⁴⁰ But having taken this woman, we asked who the young man was, but she would not tell us: these things do we testify. ⁴¹ Then the assembly believed them, as those that were the elders and judges of the people: so they condemned her to death.

⁴² Then Susanna cried out with a loud voice, and said, O everlasting God, that knowest the secrets, and knowest all things before they be: ⁴³ thou knowest that they have borne false witness against me, and, behold, I must die; whereas I never did such things as these men have maliciously invented against me. ⁴⁴ And the Lord heard her voice.

⁴⁵ Therefore when she was led to be put to death, the Lord raised up the holy spirit of a young youth, whose name was Daniel: ⁴⁶ who cried with a loud voice, I am clear from the blood of this woman.

⁴⁷ Then all the people turned them toward him, and said, What mean these words that thou hast spoken? ⁴⁸ So he standing in the midst of them said, Are ye such fools, ye sons of Israel, that without examination or knowledge of the truth ye have condemned a daughter of Israel? ⁴⁹ Return again to the place of judgment: for they have borne false witness against her.

⁵⁰ Wherefore all the people turned again in haste, and the elders said unto him, Come, sit down among us, and shew it us, seeing God hath given thee the honour of an elder. ⁵¹ Then said Daniel unto them, Put these two aside one far from another, and I will examine them.

⁵² So when they were put asunder one from another, he called one of them, and said unto him, O thou that art waxen old in wickedness, now thy sins which thou hast committed aforetime are come to light: ⁵³ for thou hast pronounced false judgment, and hast condemned the innocent, and hast let the guilty go free; albeit the Lord saith, The innocent and righteous shalt thou not slay. ⁵⁴ Now then, if thou hast seen her, tell me, Under what tree sawest thou them companying together? And he said, Under a mastick tree.

⁵⁵ And Daniel said, Very well; thou hast lied against thine own head; for even now the angel of God hath received the sentence of God to cut thee in two. ⁵⁶ So he put him aside, and commanded to bring the other, and said unto him, O thou seed of Chanaan, and not of Juda, beauty hath deceived thee, and lust hath perverted thine heart. ⁵⁷ Thus have ye dealt with the daughters of Israel, and they for fear companyed with you: but the daughter of Juda would not abide your wickedness. ⁵⁸ Now therefore tell me, Under what tree didst thou take them companying together? And he said, Under a holm tree.

⁵⁹ Then said Daniel unto him, Well; thou hast also lied against thine own head: for the angel of God waiteth with the sword to cut thee in two, that he may destroy you.

⁶⁰ With that all the assembly cried out with a loud voice, and praised God, who saveth them that trust in him. ⁶¹ And they arose against the two elders, for Daniel had convicted them of false witness by their own mouth: ⁶² and according to the law of Moses they did unto them in such sort as they maliciously intended to do to their neighbour: and they put them to death. Thus the innocent blood was saved the same day.

⁶³ Therefore Chelcias and his wife praised God for their daughter Susanna, with Joacim her husband, and all their kindred, because there was no dishonesty found in her. ⁶⁴ From that day forth was Daniel had in great reputation in the sight of the people.

Καὶ ἀπαγομένης αὐτῆς ἀπολέσθαι, ὁ Θεὸς ἐξήγειρε τὸ ⁴⁵ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον παιδαρίου νεωτέρου ᾧ ὄνομα Δανιήλ. Καὶ ⁴⁶ ἐβόησε φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, ἀθῶος ἐγὼ ἀπὸ τοῦ αἵματος ταύτης.

Ἐπέστρεψε δὲ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς πρὸς αὐτὸν, καὶ εἶπαν, τίς ὁ ⁴⁷ λόγος οὗτος, ὃν σὺ λελάληκας; Ὁ δὲ στὰς ἐν μέσῳ ⁴⁸ αὐτῶν, εἶπεν, οὕτως μωροὶ οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰσραὴλ; οὐκ ἀνακρίναντες, οὐδὲ τὸ σαφές ἐπιγνόντες, κατεκρίνατε θυγατέρα Ἰσραὴλ; Ἀναστρέψατε εἰς τὸ κριτήριον, ψευδὴ γὰρ οὗτοι ⁴⁹ κατεμαρτύρησαν αὐτῆς.

Καὶ ἀνέστρεψε πᾶς ὁ λαὸς μετὰ σπουδῆς· καὶ εἶπαν ⁵⁰ αὐτῷ οἱ πρεσβύτεροι, δεῦρο κάθισον ἐν μέσῳ ἡμῶν, καὶ ἀνάγγειλον ἡμῖν, ὅτι σοὶ δέδωκεν ὁ Θεὸς τὸ πρεσβεῖον. Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς Δανιήλ, διαχωρίσατε αὐτοὺς ἀπ' ⁵¹ ἀλλήλων μακρὰν, καὶ ἀνακρινῶ αὐτούς.

Ὡς δὲ διεχωρίσθησαν εἰς ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐνός, ἐκάλεσε τὸν ἕνα ⁵² αὐτῶν, καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτὸν, πεπαλαιωμένε ἡμερῶν κακῶν, νῦν ἤκασιν αἱ ἁμαρτίαι σου, ἃς ἐποίησες τὸ πρότερον, κρίνων ⁵³ κρίσεις ἀδίκους· καὶ τοὺς μὲν ἀθῶους κατακρίνων, ἀπολύων δὲ τοὺς αἰτίους, λέγοντος τοῦ Θεοῦ, ἀθῶον καὶ δίκαιον οὐκ ἀποκτενεῖς. Νῦν οὖν ταύτην εἶπερ εἶδες, εἰπὼν, ὑπὸ τί ⁵⁴ δένδρον εἶδες αὐτοὺς ὁμιλοῦντας ἀλλήλοις; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν, ὑπὸ σχίνον.

Εἶπε δὲ Δανιήλ, ὀρθῶς ἔψευσαι εἰς τὴν σεαυτοῦ κεφα- ⁵⁵ λήν· ἥδη γὰρ ἄγγελος φάσιν Θεοῦ λαβὼν παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ, σχίσει σε μέσον. Καὶ μεταστήσας αὐτὸν, ἐκέλευσε προσ- ⁵⁶ ἀγαγεῖν τὸν ἕτερον, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ, σπέρμα Χαναάν, καὶ οὐκ Ἰουδα, τὸ κάλλος ἐξηπάτησέ σε, καὶ ἐπιθυμία διέστρεψε τὴν καρδίαν σου. Οὕτως ἐποιεῖτε θυγατράσιν Ἰσραὴλ, ⁵⁷ καὶ ἐκεῖναι φοβούμεναι ὠμίλουν ὑμῖν· ἀλλ' οὐ θυγάτηρ Ἰουδα ὑπέμεινε τὴν ἀνομίαν ὑμῶν. Νῦν οὖν λέγε μοι, ὑπὸ ⁵⁸ τί δένδρον κατέλαβες αὐτοὺς ὁμιλοῦντας ἀλλήλοις; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν, ὑπὸ πρίνον.

Εἶπε δὲ αὐτῷ Δανιήλ, ὀρθῶς ἔψευσαι καὶ σὺ εἰς τὴν ⁵⁹ σεαυτοῦ κεφαλὴν· μένει γὰρ ὁ ἄγγελος τοῦ Θεοῦ, τὴν ῥομφαίαν ἔχων πρίσαι σε μέσον, ὅπως ἐξολοθρεύσῃ ὑμᾶς.

Καὶ ἀνεβόησε πᾶσα ἡ συναγωγὴ φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, καὶ ⁶⁰ εὐλόγησαν τῷ Θεῷ τῷ σώζοντι τοὺς ἐλπίζοντας ἐπ' αὐτόν. Καὶ ἀνέστησαν ἐπὶ τοὺς δύο πρεσβύτας, ὅτι συνέστησεν ⁶¹ αὐτοὺς Δανιήλ ἐκ τοῦ στόματος αὐτῶν ψευδομαρτυρήσαντας. Καὶ ἐποίησαν αὐτοῖς ὃν τρόπον ἐπονηρεύσαντο τῷ ⁶² πλησίον· ποιῆσαι κατὰ τὸν νόμον Μωυσῆ· καὶ ἀπέκτειναν αὐτούς, καὶ ἐσώθη αἷμα ἀναίτιον ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ.

Χελκίας δὲ καὶ ἡ γυνὴ αὐτοῦ ᾗνεσαν περὶ τῆς θυγατρὸς ⁶³ αὐτῶν μετὰ Ἰωακείμ τοῦ ἀνδρὸς αὐτῆς καὶ τῶν συγγενῶν αὐτῶν, ὅτι οὐχ εὐρέθη ἐν αὐτῇ ἄσχημον πρᾶγμα. Καὶ ⁶⁴ Δανιήλ ἐγένετο μέγας ἐνώπιον τοῦ λαοῦ ἀπὸ τῆς ἡμέρας ἐκείνης, καὶ ἐπέκεινα.

Β Η Λ Κ Α Ι Δ Ρ Α Κ Ω Ν .

- ΚΑΙ ὁ βασιλεὺς Ἀστυάγης προσετέθη πρὸς τοὺς πατέρας αὐτοῦ· καὶ παρέλαβε Κύρος ὁ Πέρσης τὴν βασιλείαν αὐτοῦ.
- 2 Καὶ ἦν Δανιὴλ συμβιωτὴς τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ ἔνδοξος ὑπὲρ πάντας τοὺς φίλους αὐτοῦ.
- 3 Καὶ ἦν εἶδωλον τοῖς Βαβυλωνίοις ᾧ ὄνομα Βήλ, καὶ ἔδαπανῶντο εἰς αὐτὸν ἐκάστης ἡμέρας σεμιδάλεως ἀρτάβαι δώδεκα, καὶ πρόβατα τεσσαράκοντα, καὶ οἴνου μετρηταὶ ἕξ.
- 4 Καὶ ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐσέβετο αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐπορεύετο καθ' ἐκάστην ἡμέραν προσκυνεῖν αὐτῷ. Δανιὴλ δὲ προσεκύνει τῷ Θεῷ αὐτοῦ· καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ βασιλεὺς, διατί οὐ προσκυνεῖς τῷ Βήλ;
- 5 Ὁ δὲ εἶπεν, ὅτι οὐ σέβομαι εἰδωλα χειροποίητα, ἀλλὰ τὸν ζῶντα Θεὸν, τὸν κτίσαντα τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν, καὶ ἔχοντα πάσης σαρκὸς κυρείαν.
- 6 Καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ ὁ βασιλεὺς, οὐ δοκεῖ σοι Βήλ εἶναι ζῶν θεός; ἢ οὐχ ὁρᾷς ὅσα ἐσθίει καὶ πίνει καθ' ἐκάστην ἡμέραν;
- 7 Καὶ εἶπε Δανιὴλ γελάσας, μὴ πλανῶ, βασιλεῦ, οὗτος γὰρ ἔσωθεν μὲν ἐστι πηλὸς, ἔξωθεν δὲ χαλκός, καὶ οὐ βέβρωκεν οὐδέποτε.
- 8 Οὐνωθεὶς δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐκάλεσε τοὺς ἱερεῖς αὐτοῦ· καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, ἔὰν μὴ εἴποιτέ μοι τίς ὁ κατέσθων τὴν δαπάνην ταύτην, ἀποθανεῖσθε. Ἐὰν δὲ δείξητε ὅτι Βήλ κατεσθίει αὐτὰ, ὁ Δανιὴλ ἀποθανεῖται, ὅτι ἐβλασφήμησεν εἰς τὸν Βήλ· καὶ εἶπε Δανιὴλ τῷ βασιλεῖ, γινέσθω κατὰ τὸ ῥήμά σου.
- 10 Καὶ ἦσαν ἱερεῖς τοῦ Βήλ ἑβδομήκοντα ἐκτὸς γυναικῶν καὶ τέκνων· καὶ ἦλθεν ὁ βασιλεὺς μετὰ Δανιὴλ εἰς τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Βήλ. Καὶ εἶπαν οἱ ἱερεῖς τοῦ Βήλ, ἰδοὺ ἡμεῖς ἀποτρέχομεν ἔξω, σὺ δὲ, βασιλεῦ, παράθες τὰ βρώματα, καὶ τὸν οἶνον κεράσας θές, καὶ ἀπόκλεισον τὴν θύραν, καὶ σφράγισον τῷ δακτυλίῳ σου. Καὶ ἐλθὼν πρῶτ', ἔὰν μὴ εὕρῃς πάντα βεβρωμένα ὑπὸ τοῦ Βήλ, ἀποθανούμεθα· ἢ Δανιὴλ ὁ ψευδόμενος καθ' ἡμῶν. Αὐτοὶ δὲ κατεφρόνουν, ὅτι πεποιήκεισαν ὑπὸ τὴν τράπεζαν κεκρυμμένην εἴσοδον, καὶ δι' αὐτῆς εἰσεπορεύοντο διόλου, καὶ ἀνέλκον αὐτά.
- 14 Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἐξήλθοσαν ἐκεῖνοι, καὶ ὁ βασιλεὺς παρέθηκε τὰ βρώματα τῷ Βήλ· καὶ ἐπέταξε Δανιὴλ τοῖς παιδαρίοις αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἤνεγκαν τέφραν· καὶ κατέσεισαν ὅλον τὸν ναὸν ἐνώπιον τοῦ βασιλέως μόνου· καὶ ἐξελθόντες ἐκλείσαν τὴν θύραν, καὶ ἐσφραγίσαντο ἐν τῷ δακτυλίῳ τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ ἀπῆλθον. Οἱ δὲ ἱερεῖς ἦλθον τὴν νύκτα

AND king Astyages was gathered to his fathers, and Cyrus of Persia received his kingdom. ²And Daniel conversed with the king, and was honoured above all his friends.

³Now the Babylonians had an idol, called Bel, and there were spent upon him every day twelve great measures of fine flour, and forty sheep, and six vessels of wine. ⁴And the king worshipped it, and went daily to adore it: but Daniel worshipped his own God. And the king said unto him, Why dost not thou worship Bel? ⁵Who answered and said, Because I may not worship idols made with hands, but the living God, who hath created the heaven and the earth, and hath sovereignty over all flesh.

⁶Then said the king unto him, Thinkest thou not that Bel is a living god? seest thou not how much he eateth and drinketh every day? ⁷Then Daniel smiled, and said, O king, be not deceived: for this is but clay within, and brass without, and did never eat or drink any thing.

⁸So the king was wroth, and called for his priests, and said unto them, If ye tell me not who this is that devoureth these expences, ye shall die. ⁹But if ye can certify me that Bel devoureth them, then Daniel shall die: for he hath spoken blasphemy against Bel. And Daniel said unto the king, Let it be according to thy word.

¹⁰Now the priests of Bel were threescore and ten, beside their wives and children. And the king went with Daniel into the temple of Bel. ¹¹So Bel's priests said, Lo, we go out: but thou, O king, set on the meat, and make ready the wine, and shut the door fast, and seal it with thine own signet; ¹²and to-morrow when thou comest in, if thou findest not that Bel hath eaten up all, we will suffer death: or else Daniel, that speaketh falsely against us. ¹³And they little regarded it: for under the table they had made a privy entrance, whereby they entered in continually, and consumed those things.

¹⁴So when they were gone forth, the king set meats before Bel. Now Daniel had commanded his servants to bring ashes, and those they strewed throughout all the temple in the presence of the king alone: then went they out, and shut the door, and sealed it with the king's signet, and so departed. ¹⁵Now in the night

came the priests with their wives and children, as they were wont to do, and did eat and drink up all.

¹⁶ In the morning betime the king arose, and Daniel with him. ¹⁷ And the king said, Daniel, are the seals whole? And he said, Yea, O king, they be whole. ¹⁸ And as soon as he had opened the door, the king looked upon the table, and cried with a loud voice, Great art thou, O Bel, and with thee is no deceit at all.

¹⁹ Then laughed Daniel, and held the king that he should not go in, and said, Behold now the pavement, and mark well whose footsteps are these. ²⁰ And the king said, I see the footsteps of men, women, and children. And then the king was angry, ²¹ and took the priests with their wives and children, who shewed him the private doors, where they came in, and consumed such things as were upon the table. ²² Therefore the king slew them, and delivered Bel into Daniel's power, who destroyed him and his temple.

²³ And in that same place there was a great dragon, which they of Babylon worshipped. ²⁴ And the king said unto Daniel, Wilt thou also say that this is of brass? lo, he liveth, he eateth and drinketh; thou canst not say that he is no living god: therefore worship him.

²⁵ Then said Daniel unto the king, I will worship the Lord my God: for he is the living God. ²⁶ But give me leave, O king, and I shall slay this dragon without sword or staff. The king said, I give thee leave. ²⁷ Then Daniel took pitch, and fat, and hair, and did seethe them together, and made lumps thereof: this he put in the dragon's mouth, and so the dragon burst in sunder: and Daniel said, Lo, these are the gods ye worship.

²⁸ When they of Babylon heard that, they took great indignation, and conspired against the king, saying, The king is become a Jew, and he hath destroyed Bel, he hath slain the dragon, and put the priests to death. ²⁹ So they came to the king, and said, Deliver us Daniel, or else we will destroy thee and thine house.

³⁰ Now when the king saw that they pressed him sore, being constrained, he delivered Daniel unto them; ³¹ who cast him into the lions' den: where he was six days. ³² And in the den there were seven lions, and they had given them every day two carcases, and two sheep: which then were not given to them, to the intent they might devour Daniel.

³³ Now there was in Jewry a prophet, called Habbauc, who had made pottage, and had broken bread in a bowl, and was going into the field, for to bring it to the reapers. ³⁴ But the angel of the Lord said unto Habbauc, Go, carry the dinner that thou hast into Babylon unto Daniel, who is in the lions' den.

³⁵ And Habbauc said, Lord, I never saw Babylon; neither do I know where the den is. ³⁶ Then the angel of the Lord took him by the crown, and bare him by the hair of his head, and through the vehemency of his spirit set him in Babylon over the den. ³⁷ And Habbauc cried, saying, O Daniel, take the dinner which God hath sent thee.

³⁸ And Daniel said, Thou hast remembered me, O God: neither hast thou forsaken them

κατὰ τὸ ἔθος αὐτῶν, καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν, καὶ κατέφαγον πάντα, καὶ ἐξέπιον.

Καὶ ὤρθρυσεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τὸ πρωὶ, καὶ Δανιὴλ μετ' αὐτοῦ. ¹⁶ Καὶ εἶπε, σῶοι αἱ σφραγίδες Δανιὴλ; ὁ δὲ εἶπε, σῶοι, ¹⁷ βασιλεῦ. Καὶ ἐγένετο ἅμα τῷ ἀνοῖξαι τὰς θύρας, ἐπιβλέψας ¹⁸ ἐπὶ τὴν τράπεζαν ὁ βασιλεὺς, ἐβόησε φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, μέγας εἶ Βῆλ, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι παρὰ σοὶ δόλος οὐδὲ εἰς.

Καὶ ἐγέλασε Δανιὴλ, καὶ ἐκράτησε τὸν βασιλέα, τοῦ ¹⁹ μὴ εἰσελθεῖν αὐτὸν ἔσω· καὶ εἶπεν, ἴδε δὴ τὸ ἔδαφος, καὶ γνῶθι τίνος τὰ ἵχνη ταῦτα. Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς, ὁρῶ τὰ ²⁰ ἵχνη ἀνδρῶν, καὶ γυναικῶν, καὶ παιδίων· καὶ ὀργισθεὶς ὁ βασιλεὺς τότε συνέλαβε τοὺς ἱερεῖς, καὶ τὰς γυναῖκας, καὶ ²¹ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔδειξαν αὐτῷ τὰς κρυπτάς θύρας, δι' ὧν εἰσεπορεύοντο, καὶ ἐδαπάνων τὰ ἐπὶ τῆς τραπέζης. Καὶ ²² ἀπέκτεινεν αὐτοὺς ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ ἔδωκε τὸν Βῆλ ἑκδοτὸν τῷ Δανιὴλ· καὶ κατέστρεψεν αὐτὸν καὶ τὸ ἱερὸν αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ ἦν Δράκων μέγας, καὶ ἐσέβοντο αὐτὸν οἱ Βαβυλώνιοι. ²³ Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τῷ Δανιὴλ, μὴ καὶ τοῦτον ἐρεῖς ὅτι ²⁴ χαλκοὺς ἔστιν; ἰδοὺ ζῇ, καὶ ἐσθίει, καὶ πίνει· οὐ δύνασαι εἰπεῖν, ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν οὗτος θεὸς ζῶν· καὶ προσκύνησον αὐτῷ.

Καὶ εἶπε Δανιὴλ, Κυρίῳ τῷ Θεῷ μου προσκυνήσω, ὅτι ²⁵ οὗτός ἐστι Θεὸς ζῶν. Σὺ δὲ, βασιλεῦ, δός μοι ἐξουσίαν, ²⁶ καὶ ἀποκτενῶ τὸν δράκοντα ἄνευ μαχαίρας καὶ ῥάβδου· καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς δίδωμί σοι. Καὶ ἔλαβεν ὁ Δανιὴλ πίσσαν ²⁷ καὶ στέαρ καὶ τρίχας, καὶ ἤψησεν ἐπιτοαντό· καὶ ἐποίησε μάζας, καὶ ἔδωκεν εἰς τὸ στόμα τοῦ δράκοντος, καὶ φαγὼν διερρήραγ· ὁ δράκων· καὶ εἶπεν, ἴδετε τὰ σεβάσματα ὑμῶν.

Καὶ ἐγένετο, ὡς ἤκουσαν οἱ Βαβυλώνιοι, ἠγανάκτησαν ²⁸ λίαν, καὶ συνεστράφησαν ἐπὶ τὸν βασιλέα, καὶ εἶπαν, Ἰουδαῖος γέγονεν ὁ βασιλεὺς, τὸν Βῆλ κατέσπασε, καὶ τὸν δράκοντα ἀπέκτεινε, καὶ τοὺς ἱερεῖς κατέσφαξε. Καὶ εἶπαν ²⁹ ἐλθόντες πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα, παράδος ἡμῖν τὸν Δανιὴλ· εἰ δὲ μὴ, ἀποκτενοῦμέν σε, καὶ τὸν οἶκόν σου.

Καὶ εἶδεν ὁ βασιλεὺς ὅτι ἐπείγουσιν αὐτὸν σφόδρα, καὶ ³⁰ ἀναγκασθεὶς ὁ βασιλεὺς παρέδωκεν αὐτοῖς τὸν Δανιὴλ. Οἱ δὲ ἔβαλον αὐτὸν εἰς τὸν λάκκον τῶν λεόντων, καὶ ἦν ³¹ ἐκεῖ ἡμέρας ἕξ. Ἦσαν δὲ ἐν τῷ λάκκῳ ἑπτὰ λέοντες, καὶ ³² ἐδίδото αὐτοῖς τὴν ἡμέραν δύο σώματα καὶ δύο πρόβατα· τότε δὲ οὐκ ἐδόθη αὐτοῖς, ἵνα καταφάγωσι τὸν Δανιὴλ.

Καὶ ἦν Ἀμβακοὺμ ὁ προφήτης ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, καὶ αὐτὸς ³³ ἤψησεν ἔψημα, καὶ ἐνέθρυνεν ἄρτους εἰς σκάφην, καὶ ἐπορεύετο εἰς τὸ πεδῖον ἀπενέγκαι τοῖς θερισταῖς. Καὶ εἶπεν ³⁴ ὁ ἄγγελος Κυρίου τῷ Ἀμβακοὺμ, ἀπένεγκε τὸ ἄριστον ὃ ἔχεις εἰς Βαβυλῶνα τῷ Δανιὴλ εἰς τὸν λάκκον τῶν λεόντων.

Καὶ εἶπεν Ἀμβακοὺμ, Κύριε, Βαβυλῶνα οὐχ ἐώρακα, ³⁵ καὶ τὸν λάκκον οὐ γινώσκω. Καὶ ἐπελάβετο ὁ ἄγγελος ³⁶ Κυρίου τῆς κορυφῆς αὐτοῦ, καὶ βαστάσας τῆς κόμης τῆς κεφαλῆς αὐτοῦ, ἔθηκεν αὐτὸν εἰς Βαβυλῶνα ἐπάνω τοῦ λάκκου, ἐν τῷ ροίῳ τοῦ πνεύματος αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐβόησεν ³⁷ Ἀμβακοὺμ, λέγων, Δανιὴλ, Δανιὴλ, λάβε τὸ ἄριστον ὃ ἀπέστειλέ σοι ὁ Θεός.

Καὶ εἶπε Δανιὴλ, ἐμνήσθης γάρ μου ὁ Θεός, καὶ οὐκ ³⁸

- 39 ἐγκατέλιπες τοὺς ἀγαπώντάς σε. Καὶ ἀναστὰς Δανιὴλ, ἔφαγεν· ὁ δὲ ἄγγελος τοῦ Θεοῦ ἀπεκατέστησε τὸν Ἀμβακὸν παραχρῆμα εἰς τὸν τόπον αὐτοῦ.
- 40 Ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς ἦλθε τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ ἐβδόμῃ πενθῆσαι τὸν Δανιὴλ, καὶ ἦλθεν ἐπὶ τὸν λάκκον, καὶ ἐνέβλεψε, καὶ ἰδὼν,
- 41 Δανιὴλ καθήμενος. Καὶ ἀναβοήσας φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, εἶπε, μέγας εἶ, Κύριε ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ Δανιὴλ, καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ἄλλος
- 42 πλὴν σου. Καὶ ἀνέσπασεν αὐτόν· τοὺς δὲ αἰτίους τῆς ἀπωλείας αὐτοῦ ἐνέβαλεν εἰς τὸν λάκκον· καὶ κατεβρώθησαν παραχρῆμα ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ.

that seek thee and love thee. ³⁹ So Daniel arose, and did eat: and the angel of the Lord set Habbacuc in his own place again immediately.

⁴⁰ Upon the seventh day the king went to bewail Daniel: and when he came to the den, he looked in, and, behold, Daniel was sitting. ⁴¹ Then cried the king with a loud voice, saying, Great art thou, O Lord God of Daniel, and there is none other beside thee. ⁴² And he drew him out, and cast those that were the cause of his destruction into the den: and they were devoured in a moment before his face.

Μ Α Κ Κ Α Β Α Ι Ω Ν Α΄.

- ΚΑΙ ἐγένετο μετὰ τὸ πατάξαι Ἀλέξανδρον τὸν Φιλίππου τὸν Μακεδόνα, ὃς ἐξῆλθεν ἐν τῇ γῇ Χεττειεῖμ, καὶ ἐπάταξε τὸν Δαρεῖον βασιλέα Περσῶν καὶ Μήδων, καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν
- 2 ἀντ' αὐτοῦ πρότερος ἐπὶ τὴν Ἑλλάδα. Καὶ συνεστήσατο πολέμους πολλοὺς, καὶ ἐκράτησεν ὀχυρωμάτων πολλῶν,
- 3 καὶ ἔσφαξε βασιλεῖς τῆς γῆς. Καὶ διῆλθεν ἕως ἄκρων τῆς γῆς, καὶ ἔλαβε σκῦλα πλήθους ἐθνῶν· καὶ ἡσύχασεν ἡ γῆ ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ· καὶ ὑψώθη, καὶ ἐπῆρθη ἡ καρδιά αὐτοῦ.
- 4 Καὶ συνήγαγε δύναμιν ἰσχυρὰν σφόδρα, καὶ ἥρξε χωρῶν, καὶ ἐθνῶν, καὶ τυράννων, καὶ ἐγένοντο αὐτῷ εἰς φόρον.
- 5 Καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ τὴν κοίτην, καὶ ἔγνω ὅτι ἀποθνήσκει. Καὶ ἐκάλεσε τοὺς παῖδας αὐτοῦ τοὺς ἐνδόξους τοὺς συντρόφους αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ νεότητος, καὶ διεῖλεν αὐτοῖς
- 7 τὴν βασιλείαν αὐτοῦ ἔτι ζώντος αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν
- 8 Ἀλέξανδρος ἔτη δώδεκα, καὶ ἀπέθανε. Καὶ ἐπεκράτησαν οἱ
- 9 παῖδες αὐτοῦ ἕκαστος ἐν τῷ τόπῳ αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐπέθεντο πάντες διαδήματα μετὰ τὸ ἀποθανεῖν αὐτὸν, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτῶν ὀπίσω αὐτῶν ἔτη πολλὰ, καὶ ἐπλήθυναν κακὰ ἐν τῇ γῇ.
- 10 Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐξ αὐτῶν ρίζα ἀμαρτωλὸς Ἀντίοχος Ἐπιφανής, υἱὸς Ἀντιόχου βασιλέως, ὃς ἦν ὄμηρα ἐν τῇ Ῥώμῃ· καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν ἐν ἔτει ἑκατοστῷ καὶ τριακοστῷ καὶ ἐβδόμῳ βασιλείας Ἑλλήνων.
- 11 Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις ἐξῆλθον ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ υἱοὶ παράνομοι, καὶ ἀνέπεισαν πολλοὺς, λέγοντες, πορευθώμεν, καὶ διαθώμεθα διαθήκην μετὰ τῶν ἐθνῶν τῶν κύκλῳ ἡμῶν, ὅτι ἀφ' ἧς ἐχωρίσθημεν ἀπ' αὐτῶν, εὗρεν ἡμᾶς κακὰ πολλά.
- 12 Καὶ ἡγαθύνθη ὁ λόγος ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς αὐτῶν.

AND it happened, after that Alexander son of Philip, the Macedonian, who came out of the land of Chetiiim, had smitten Darius king of the Persians and Medes, that he reigned in his stead, the first over Greece, ² and made many wars, and won many strong holds, and slew the kings of the earth, ³ and went through to the ends of the earth, and took spoils of many nations, insomuch that the earth was quiet before him; whereupon he was exalted, and his heart was lifted up. ⁴ And he gathered a mighty strong host, and ruled over countries, and nations, and kings, who became tributaries unto him.

⁵ And after these things he fell sick, and perceived that he should die. ⁶ Wherefore he called his servants, such as were honourable, and had been brought up with him from his youth, and parted his kingdom among them, while he was yet alive. ⁷ So Alexander reigned twelve years, and then died. ⁸ And his servants bare rule every one in his place. ⁹ And after his death they all put crowns upon themselves; so did their sons after them many years: and evils were multiplied in the earth.

¹⁰ And there came out of them a wicked root, Antiochus surnamed Epiphanes, son of Antiochus the king, who had been an hostage at Rome, and he reigned in the hundred and thirty and seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.

¹¹ In those days went there out of Israel wicked men, who persuaded many, saying, Let us go and make a covenant with the heathen that are round about us: for since we departed from them we have had much sorrow. ¹² So this device pleased them well.

¹³ Then certain of the people were so forward herein, that they went to the king, who gave them licence to do after the ordinances of the heathen: ¹⁴ whereupon they built a place of exercise at Jerusalem according to the customs of the heathen: ¹⁵ and made themselves uncircumcised, and forsook the holy covenant, and joined themselves to the heathen, and were sold to do mischief.

¹⁶ Now when the kingdom was established before Antiochus, he thought to reign over Egypt, that he might have the dominion of two realms. ¹⁷ Wherefore he entered into Egypt with a great multitude, with chariots, and elephants, and horsemen, and a great navy, ¹⁸ and made war against Ptolemee king of Egypt: but Ptolemee was afraid of him, and fled; and many were wounded to death. ¹⁹ Thus they got the strong cities in the land of Egypt, and he took the spoils thereof.

²⁰ And after that Antiochus had smitten Egypt, he returned again in the hundred forty and third year, and went up against Israel and Jerusalem with a great multitude, ²¹ and entered proudly into the sanctuary, and took away the golden altar, and the candlestick of light, and all the vessels thereof, ²² and the table of the shewbread, and the pouring vessels, and the vials, and the censers of gold, and the veil, and the crowns, and the golden ornaments that were before the temple, all which he pulled off. ²³ He took also the silver and the gold, and the precious vessels: also he took the hidden treasures which he found.

²⁴ And when he had taken all away, he went into his own land, having made a great massacre, and spoken very proudly. ²⁵ Therefore there was great mourning in Israel, in every place where they were; ²⁶ so that the princes and elders mourned, the virgins and young men were made feeble, and the beauty of women was changed. ²⁷ Every bridegroom took up lamentation, and she that sat in the marriage chamber was in heaviness. ²⁸ The land also was moved for the inhabitants thereof, and all the house of Jacob was covered with confusion.

²⁹ And after two years fully expired, the king sent his chief collector of tribute unto the cities of Juda, who came unto Jerusalem with a great multitude, ³⁰ and spake peaceable words unto them, *but all* was deceit: for when they had given him credence, he fell suddenly upon the city, and smote it very sore, and destroyed much people of Israel. ³¹ And when he had taken the spoils of the city, he set it on fire, and pulled down the houses and walls thereof on every side. ³² But the women and children took they captive, and possessed the cattle.

³³ Then builded they the city of David with a great and strong wall, and with mighty towers, and made it a stronghold for them. ³⁴ And they put therein a sinful nation, wicked men, and fortified *themselves* therein. ³⁵ They stored it also with armour and victuals, and when they had gathered together the spoils of Jerusalem, they laid them up there, and so they became a sore snare: ³⁶ for it was a place to lie in wait against the sanctuary, and an evil adversary to Israel.

Καὶ προεθυμήθησάν τινες ἀπὸ τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν 13 πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα· καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἐξουσίαν ποιῆσαι τὰ δικαιώματα τῶν ἐθνῶν. Καὶ ᾠκοδόμησαν γυμνάσιον ἐν 14 Ἱεροσολύμοις κατὰ τὰ νόμιμα τῶν ἐθνῶν. Καὶ ἐποίησαν 15 ἑαυτοῖς ἀκροβυστίας, καὶ ἀπέστησαν ἀπὸ διαθήκης ἁγίας· καὶ ἐξεύχθησαν τοῖς ἔθνεσι, καὶ ἐπράθησαν τοῦ ποιῆσαι τὸ πονηρόν.

Καὶ ἡτοιμάσθη ἡ βασιλεία ἐναντίον Ἀντιόχου· καὶ 16 ὑπέλαβε βασιλεύσαι τῆς Αἰγύπτου, ὅπως βασιλεύσῃ ἐπὶ τὰς δύο βασιλείας. Καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς Αἴγυπτον ἐν ὄχλῳ 17 βαρεῖ, ἐν ἄρμασι, καὶ ἐν ἐλέφασι, καὶ ἐν ἱππεῦσι, καὶ ἐν στόλῳ μεγάλῳ. Καὶ συνεστήσατο πόλεμον πρὸς Πτολε- 18 μαῖον βασιλέα Αἰγύπτου· καὶ ἐνετράπη Πτολεμαῖος ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔφυγε· καὶ ἔπεσον τραυματαῖα πολλοί.

Καὶ κατελάβοντο τὰς πόλεις τὰς ὀχυρὰς ἐν γῇ Αἰγύπτῳ· 19 καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα γῆς Αἰγύπτου.

Καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν Ἀντιόχος μετὰ τὸ πατάξαι Αἴγυπτον ἐν 20 τῷ ἑκατοστῷ καὶ τεσσαρακοστῷ καὶ τρίτῳ ἔτει· καὶ ἀνέβη ἐπὶ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἀνέβη εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἐν ὄχλῳ βαρεῖ. Καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὸ ἅγιασμα ἐν ὑπερηφανείᾳ, καὶ ἔλαβε τὸ 21 θυσιαστήριον τὸ χρυσοῦν, καὶ τὴν λυχνίαν τοῦ φωτὸς, καὶ πάντα τὰ σκεύη αὐτῆς, καὶ τὴν τράπεζαν τῆς προθέσεως, 22 καὶ τὰ σπονδεῖα, καὶ τὰς φιάλας, καὶ τὰς θυίσκας τὰς χρυσᾶς, καὶ τὸ καταπέτασμα, καὶ τοὺς στεφάνους, καὶ τὸν κόσμον τὸν χρυσοῦν τὸν κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ ναοῦ, καὶ ἐλέπισε πάντα. Καὶ ἔλαβε τὸ ἀργύριον, καὶ τὸ χρυσίον, 23 καὶ τὰ σκεύη τὰ ἐπιθυμητά· καὶ ἔλαβε τοὺς θησαυροὺς τοὺς ἀποκρύφους οὓς εὑρε.

Καὶ λαβὼν πάντα ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὴν γῆν αὐτοῦ· καὶ 24 ἐποίησε φονοκτονίαν, καὶ ἐλάλησεν ὑπερηφανείαν μεγάλην. Καὶ ἐγένετο πένθος μέγα ἐπὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἐν παντὶ τόπῳ αὐτῶν. 25 Καὶ ἐστέναξαν ἄρχοντες καὶ πρεσβύτεροι, παρθένοι καὶ 26 νεανίσκοι ἡσθένησαν, καὶ τὸ κάλλος τῶν γυναικῶν ἡλλοιώθη. Πᾶς νυμφίος ἀνέλαβε θρήνον, καὶ καθημένη ἐν παστῷ 27 ἐγένετο ἐν πένθει. Καὶ ἐσείσθη ἡ γῆ ἐπὶ τοὺς κατοικοῦντας 28 αὐτήν· καὶ πᾶς ὁ οἶκος Ἰακώβ ἐνεδύσατο αἰσχύνῃν.

Καὶ μετὰ δύο ἔτη ἡμερῶν ἀπέστειλεν ὁ βασιλεὺς ἄρχοντα 29 φορολογίας εἰς τὰς πόλεις Ἰούδα· καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἐν ὄχλῳ βαρεῖ. Καὶ ἐλάλησεν αὐτοῖς λόγους εἰρηνικοὺς 30 ἐν δόλῳ· καὶ ἐνεπίστευσαν αὐτῷ· καὶ ἐπέπεσεν ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν ἐξάπινα, καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτὴν πληγὴν μεγάλην, καὶ ἀπώλεσε λαὸν πολὺν ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα τῆς 31 πόλεως, καὶ ἐνεπύρισεν αὐτὴν πυρὶ, καὶ καθείλε τοὺς οἶκους αὐτῆς καὶ τὰ τεῖχη αὐτῆς κύκλῳ. Καὶ ἡχμαλώτευσαν τὰς 32 γυναῖκας καὶ τὰ τέκνα, καὶ τὰ κτήνη ἐκληρονόμησαν.

Καὶ ᾠκοδόμησαν τὴν πόλιν Δαυὶδ τεῖχει μεγάλῳ καὶ 33 ἰσχυρῷ, πύργοις ὀχυροῖς, καὶ ἐγένετο αὐτοῖς εἰς ἄκραν. Καὶ 34 ἔθηκαν ἐκεῖ ἔθνος ἁμαρτωλὸν, ἄνδρας παρανόμους, καὶ ἐνίσχυσαν ἐν αὐτῇ. Καὶ παρέθεντο ὅπλα καὶ τροφὰς, καὶ 35 συναγαγόντες τὰ σκῦλα Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἀπέθεντο ἐκεῖ· καὶ ἐγένοντο εἰς μεγάλην παγίδα. Καὶ ἐγένετο εἰς ἔνδρον τῷ 36 ἁγιάσματι, καὶ εἰς διάβολον πονηρὸν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ διαπαντός.

37 Καὶ ἐξέχεαν αἷμα ἀθῶων κύκλῳ τοῦ ἁγιάσματος, καὶ
 38 ἐμόλυναν τὸ ἁγίασμα. Καὶ ἔφυγον οἱ κάτοικοι Ἱερουσαλὴμ
 δι' αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐγένετο κατοικία ἁλλοτρίων· καὶ ἐγένετο
 39 ἁλλοτρία τοῖς γεννήμασιν αὐτῆς, καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῆς ἐγκατέ-
 λιπον αὐτήν. Τὸ ἁγίασμα αὐτῆς ἡρημώθη ὡς ἔρημος, αἱ
 40 ἐορταὶ αὐτῆς ἐστράφησαν εἰς πένθος, τὰ σάββατα αὐτῆς εἰς
 ὀνειδισμόν, ἡ τιμὴ αὐτῆς εἰς ἐξουδένωσιν. Κατὰ τὴν δόξαν
 αὐτῆς ἐπληθύνθη ἡ ἀτιμία αὐτῆς, καὶ τὸ ὕψος αὐτῆς ἐστράφη
 εἰς πένθος.
 41 Καὶ ἔγραψεν ὁ βασιλεὺς Ἀντίοχος πάσῃ τῇ βασιλείᾳ
 42 αὐτοῦ εἶναι πάντας λαὸν ἓνα, καὶ ἐγκαταλιπεῖν ἕκαστον τὰ
 νόμιμα αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπεδέξατο πάντα τὰ ἔθνη κατὰ τὸν λόγον
 43 τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ πολλοὶ ἀπὸ Ἰσραὴλ εὐδόκησαν τῇ
 λατρείᾳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔθυσαν τοῖς εἰδώλοις, καὶ ἐβεβήλωσαν
 τὸ σάββατον.
 44 Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ βασιλεὺς βιβλία ἐν χειρὶ ἀγγέλων εἰς
 Ἱερουσαλὴμ καὶ τὰς πόλεις Ἰούδα, πορευθῆναι ὀπίσω νομί-
 45 μων ἁλλοτρίων τῆς γῆς, καὶ κωλύσαι ὀλοκαυτώματα καὶ
 θυσίαν καὶ σπονδὴν ἐκ τοῦ ἁγιάσματος, καὶ βεβηλώσαι
 46 σάββατα καὶ ἐορτάς, καὶ μῖαναι ἁγίασμα καὶ ἁγίους·
 47 οἰκοδομῆσαι βωμοὺς, καὶ τεμένη, καὶ εἰδωλεῖα, καὶ θύειν
 48 ὕεια, καὶ κτήνη κοινὰ, καὶ ἀφιέναι τοὺς υἱοὺς αὐτῶν ἀπερι-
 μήτους, βδελύξαι τὰς ψυχὰς αὐτῶν ἐν παντὶ ἀκαθάρτῳ καὶ
 49 βεβηλώσει, ὥστε ἐπιλαθέσθαι τοῦ νόμου, καὶ ἀλλάξαι
 πάντα τὰ δικαιώματα.
 50 Καὶ ὃς ἂν μὴ ποιήσῃ κατὰ τὸ ῥῆμα τοῦ βασιλέως, ἀπο-
 51 θανεῖται. Κατὰ πάντας τοὺς λόγους τούτους ἔγραψε πάσῃ
 τῇ βασιλείᾳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐποίησεν ἐπισκόπους ἐπὶ πάντα τὸν
 λαόν· καὶ ἐνετείλατο ταῖς πόλεσιν Ἰούδα θυσιάζειν κατὰ
 52 πόλιν καὶ πόλιν. Καὶ συνηθροίσθησαν ἀπὸ τοῦ λαοῦ πρὸς
 αὐτοὺς πολλοὶ, πᾶς ὁ ἐγκαταλιπὼν τὸν νόμον· καὶ ἐποίησαν
 53 κακὰ ἐν τῇ γῇ. Καὶ ἔθεντο τὸν Ἰσραὴλ ἐν κρύφοις ἐν
 παντὶ φυγαδευτηρίῳ αὐτῶν.
 54 Καὶ τῇ πεντεκαίδεκάτῃ ἡμέρᾳ Χασελεῦ, τῷ πέμπτῳ καὶ
 τεσσαρακοστῷ καὶ ἑκατοστῷ ἔτει, ὠκοδόμησαν βδέλυγμα
 55 ἑρημώσεως ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον, καὶ ἐν πόλεσιν Ἰούδα κύκλῳ
 ὠκοδόμησαν βωμοὺς. Καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν θυρῶν τῶν οἰκιῶν, καὶ
 ἐν ταῖς πλατείαις ἐθυμίων.
 56 Καὶ τὰ βιβλία τοῦ νόμου ἃ εἶρον, ἐνεπύρισαν πυρὶ κατα-
 57 σχίσαντες. Καὶ ὅπου εὐρίσκετο παρά τινι βιβλίον διαθή-
 κης, καὶ εἴ τις συνενδόκει τῷ νόμῳ, τὸ σύγκριμα τοῦ
 58 βασιλέως ἐθανάτου αὐτόν. Ἐν ἰσχύϊ αὐτῶν ἐποίουν οὕτως
 τῷ Ἰσραὴλ τοῖς εὐρισκομένοις ἐν παντὶ μηνὶ καὶ μηνὶ ἐν
 59 ταῖς πόλεσι. Καὶ τῇ πέμπτῃ καὶ εἰκάδι τοῦ μηνὸς θυσιά-
 ζοντες ἐπὶ τὸν βωμὸν ὃς ἦν ἐπὶ τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου.
 60 Καὶ τὰς γυναῖκας τὰς περιτετηκυίας τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν
 61 ἐθανάτωσαν, κατὰ τὸ πρόσταγμα. Καὶ ἐκρέμασαν τὰ
 βρέφη ἐκ τῶν τραχήλων αὐτῶν, καὶ τοὺς οἴκους αὐτῶν
 προενόμευσαν, καὶ τοὺς περιτετηκότες αὐτοὺς ἐθανάτωσαν.
 62 Καὶ πολλοὶ ἐν Ἰσραὴλ ἐκραταιώθησαν, καὶ ὠχυρώθησαν ἐν
 63 ἑαυτοῖς τοῦ μὴ φαγεῖν κοινά. Καὶ ἐπελέξαντο ἀποθανεῖν,
 ἵνα μὴ μιανθῶσι τοῖς βρώμασι, καὶ μὴ βεβηλώσωσι διαθή-

³⁷ Thus they shed innocent blood on every side of the sanctuary, and defiled it; ³⁸ inso- much that the inhabitants of Jerusalem fled because of them: whereupon *the city* was made an habitation of strangers, and became strange to those that were born in her; and her own children left her. ³⁹ Her sanctuary was laid waste like a wilderness, her feasts were turned into mourning, her sabbaths into reproach, her honour into contempt. ⁴⁰ As had been her glory, so was her dishonour increased, and her excellency was turned into mourning.

⁴¹ Moreover king Antiochus wrote to his whole kingdom, that all should be one people, ⁴² and every one should leave his laws: so all the heathen agreed according to the command- ment of the king. ⁴³ Yea, many also of the Israelites consented to his religion, and sacri- ficed unto idols, and profaned the sabbath.

⁴⁴ For the king had sent letters by messengers unto Jerusalem and the cities of Juda, that they should follow the strange laws of the land, ⁴⁵ and forbid burnt offerings, and sacrifice, and drink offerings, in the temple; and that they should profane the sabbaths and festival days: ⁴⁶ and pollute the sanctuary and holy people: ⁴⁷ set up altars, and groves, and chapels of idols, and sacrifice swine's flesh, and unclean beasts: ⁴⁸ that they should also leave their children uncircumcised, and make their souls abominable with all manner of uncleanness and profanation: ⁴⁹ to the end they might forget the law, and change all the ordinances.

⁵⁰ And whosoever would not do according to the commandment of the king, *he said*, he should die. ⁵¹ In the selfsame manner wrote he to his whole kingdom, and appointed over- seers over all the people, commanding the cities of Juda to sacrifice, city by city.

⁵² Then many of the people were gathered unto them, to wit, every one that forsook the law; and so they committed evils in the land; ⁵³ and drove the Israelites into secret places, even wheresoever they could flee for succour.

⁵⁴ Now the fifteenth day of *the month* Casleu, in the hundred forty and fifth year, they set up the abomination of desolation upon the altar, and builded idol altars throughout the cities of Juda on every side; ⁵⁵ and burnt in- cense at the doors of their houses, and in the streets.

⁵⁶ And when they had rent in pieces the books of the law which they found, they burnt them with fire. ⁵⁷ And wheresoever was found with any the book of the testament, or if any consented to the law, the king's commandment was, that they should put him to death. ⁵⁸ Thus did they by their authority unto the Israelites every month, to as many as were found in the cities. ⁵⁹ Now the five and twentieth day of the month they did sacrifice upon the idol altar, which was upon the altar of God.

⁶⁰ At which time according to the command- ment they put to death certain women, that had caused their children to be circumcised.

⁶¹ And they hanged the infants about their necks, and rifled their houses, and slew them that had circumcised them. ⁶² Howbeit many in Israel were fully resolved and confirmed in themselves not to eat any unclean thing. ⁶³ Wherefore they chose rather to die, that they might not be defiled with meats, and that they

might not profane the holy covenant: so then they died. ⁶⁴ And there was very great wrath upon Israel.

In those days arose Mattathias *the son of John, the son of Simeon*, a priest of the sons of Joarib, from Jerusalem, and dwelt in Modin. ² And he had five sons, Joannan, called Caddis: ³ Simon, called Thassi: ⁴ Judas, who was called Maccabeus: ⁵ Eleazar, called Avaran: and Jonathan, whose surname was Apphus.

⁶ And when he saw the blasphemies that were committed in Juda and Jerusalem, ⁷ he said, Woe is me! wherefore was I born to see this misery of my people, and of the holy city, and to dwell there, when it was delivered into the hand of the enemy, and the sanctuary into the hand of strangers?

⁸ Her temple is become as a man without glory. ⁹ Her glorious vessels are carried away into captivity, her infants are slain in the streets, her young men with the sword of the enemy. ¹⁰ What nation hath not had a part in *her* kingdom, and gotten of her spoils? ¹¹ All her ornaments are taken away; of a free woman she has become a bondslave. ¹² And, behold, our sanctuary, even our beauty and our glory, is laid waste, and the Gentiles have profaned it. ¹³ To what end therefore shall we live any longer?

¹⁴ Then Mattathias and his sons rent their clothes, and put on sackcloth, and mourned very sore.

¹⁵ In the mean while the king's officers, such as compelled the people to revolt, came into the city Modin, to make them sacrifice. ¹⁶ And when many of Israel came unto them, Mattathias also and his sons came together.

¹⁷ Then answered the king's officers, and said to Mattathias on this wise, Thou art a ruler, and an honourable and great man in this city, and strengthened with sons and brethren: ¹⁸ now therefore come thou first, and fulfil the king's commandment, like as all the nations have done, yea, and the men of Juda also, and such as remain at Jerusalem: so shalt thou and thy house be in the number of the king's friends, and thou and thy children shall be honoured with silver and gold, and many rewards.

¹⁹ Then Mattathias answered and spake with a loud voice, Though all the nations that are under the king's dominion obey him, and fall away every one from the religion of their fathers, and give consent to his commandments: ²⁰ yet will I and my sons and my brethren walk in the covenant of our fathers. ²¹ God forbid that we should forsake the law and the ordinances. ²² We will not hearken to the king's words, to go from our religion, either on the right hand, or the left.

²³ Now when he had left speaking these words, there came one of the Jews in the sight of all to sacrifice on the altar which was at Modin, according to the king's commandment. ²⁴ Which thing when Matthias saw, he was inflamed with zeal, and his reins trembled, neither could he forbear to shew his anger according to judgment: wherefore he ran, and slew him upon the altar.

²⁵ Also the king's commissioner, who com-

κην ἁγίαν· καὶ ἀπέθανον. Καὶ ἐγένετο ὀργὴ μεγάλη ἐπὶ 64 Ἰσραὴλ σφόδρα.

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις ἀνέστη Ματθαθίας Ἰωάννου τοῦ 2 Συμεὼν, ἱερεὺς τῶν υἱῶν Ἰωαριβ ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἐκάθισεν ἐν Μωδεὶν. Καὶ αὐτῷ υἱοὶ πέντε, Ἰωαννὰν ὁ ἐπικαλούμενος Καδδὶς, Σίμων ὁ καλούμενος Θασσι, Ἰούδας ὁ 3, 4 ἐπικαλούμενος Μακκαβαῖος, Ἐλεάζαρ ὁ ἐπικαλούμενος 5 Αἰαράν, Ἰωνάθαν ὁ ἐπικαλούμενος Ἀπφούς.

Καὶ εἶδε τὰς βλασφημίας τὰς γινομένας ἐν Ἰουδα καὶ ἐν 6 Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ εἶπεν, οἶμοι, ἵνατί τοῦτο ἐγεννήθη ἰδεῖν 7 τὸ σύντριμμα τοῦ λαοῦ μου, καὶ τὸ σύντριμμα τῆς πόλεως τῆς ἁγίας, καὶ καθίσαι ἐκεῖ ἐν τῷ δοθῆναι αὐτὴν ἐν χειρὶ ἐχθρῶν, καὶ τὸ ἁγίασμα ἐν χειρὶ ἄλλοτρίων;

Ἐγένετο ὁ ναὸς αὐτῆς ὡς ἀνὴρ ἄδοξος, τὰ σκεύη τῆς 8, 9 δόξης αὐτῆς αἰχμάλωτα ἀπήχθη, ἀπεκτάνθη τὰ νήπια αὐτῆς ἐν ταῖς πλατείαις, οἱ νεανίσκοι αὐτῆς ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ ἐχθροῦ. Ποῖον ἔθνος οὐκ ἐκληρονόμησε βασιλείαν αὐτῆς, καὶ οὐκ 10 ἐκράτησε τῶν σκύλων αὐτῆς; Πᾶς ὁ κόσμος αὐτῆς ἀφηρέθη, 11 ἀντὶ ἐλευθέρᾳς ἐγένετο εἰς δούλην. Καὶ ἰδοὺ τὰ ἅγια 12 ἡμῶν καὶ ἡ καλλονὴ ἡμῶν καὶ ἡ δόξα ἡμῶν ἡρημώθη, καὶ ἐβεβήλωσαν αὐτὰ τὰ ἔθνη. Ἰνατί ἡμῖν ἔτι ζῆν; 13

Καὶ διέρρηξε Ματθαθίας καὶ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτῶν, 14 καὶ περιεβάλλοντο σάκκους, καὶ ἐπένθησαν σφόδρα.

Καὶ ἦλθον οἱ παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως οἱ καταναγκάζοντες 15 τὴν ἀποστασίαν εἰς Μωδεὶν τὴν πόλιν, ἵνα θυσιάσωσι. Καὶ 16 πολλοὶ ἀπὸ Ἰσραὴλ πρὸς αὐτοὺς προσῆλθον· καὶ Ματθαθίας καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ συνήχθησαν.

Καὶ ἀπεκρίθησαν οἱ παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ εἶπον τῷ 17 Ματθαθίᾳ, λέγοντες, ἄρχων καὶ ἔνδοξος καὶ μέγας εἶ ἐν τῇ πόλει ταύτῃ, καὶ ἐστηριγμένος ἐν υἱοῖς καὶ ἀδελφοῖς. Νῦν 18 οὖν πρόσσελθε πρῶτος, καὶ ποίησον τὸ πρόσταγμα τοῦ βασιλέως, ὡς ἐποίησαν πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ οἱ ἄνδρες Ἰούδα, καὶ οἱ καταλειφθέντες ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ· καὶ ἔσῃ σὺ καὶ ὁ οἶκός σου τῶν φίλων τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ σὺ καὶ οἱ υἱοί σου δοξασθήσεσθε ἀργυρίῳ, καὶ χρυσίῳ, καὶ ἀποστολαῖς πολλαῖς.

Καὶ ἀπεκρίθη Ματθαθίας, καὶ εἶπε φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, εἰ 19 πάντα τὰ ἔθνη τὰ ἐν οἴκῳ τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ βασιλέως ἀκούουσιν αὐτοῦ, ἀποστήναι ἕκαστος ἀπὸ λατρείας πατέρων αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἡρετίσαντο ἐν ταῖς ἐντολαῖς αὐτοῦ, ἀλλ' ἐγὼ καὶ 20 οἱ υἱοί μου καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοί μου πορευσόμεθα ἐν διαθήκῃ πατέρων ἡμῶν. Ἰλεως ἡμῖν καταλιπεῖν νόμον καὶ δικαιοματὰ. Τῶν λόγων τοῦ βασιλέως οὐκ ἀκουσόμεθα, τοῦ 22 παρελθεῖν τὴν λατρείαν ἡμῶν, δεξιὰν ἢ ἀριστεράν.

Καὶ ὡς ἐπαύσατο λαλῶν τοὺς λόγους τούτους, προσῆλθεν 23 ἀνὴρ Ἰουδαῖος ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς πάντων, θυσιάσαι ἐπὶ τοῦ βωμοῦ τοῦ ἐν Μωδεὶν κατὰ τὸ πρόσταγμα τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ εἶδε Ματθαθίας καὶ ἐξήλωσε, καὶ ἐτρόμησαν οἱ νεφροὶ 24 αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀνῆνεγκε θυμὸν κατὰ τὸ κρίμα, καὶ δραμῶν ἔσφαξεν αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὸν βωμόν.

Καὶ τὸν ἄνδρα τοῦ βασιλέως τὸν ἀναγκάζοντα θύειν, 25

- ἀπέκτεινεν ἐν τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, καὶ τὸν βώμον καθείλε.
 26 Καὶ ἐζήλωσε τῷ νόμῳ καθὼς ἐποίησε Φινεὲς τῷ Ζαμβρί υἱῷ Σαλώμ.
 27 Καὶ ἀνέκραξε Ματταθίας ἐν τῇ πόλει φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, λέγων, πᾶς ὁ ζηλῶν τῷ νόμῳ καὶ ἰστῶν διαθήκην, ἐξελθέτω
 28 ὀπίσω μου. Καὶ ἔφυγον αὐτοὺς καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ εἰς τὰ ὄρη, καὶ ἐγκατέλιπον ὅσα εἶχον ἐν τῇ πόλει.
 29 Τότε κατέβησαν πολλοὶ ζητοῦντες δικαιοσύνην καὶ κρίμα,
 30 εἰς τὴν ἔρημον, καθίσαι ἐκεῖ, αὐτοὶ καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτῶν καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν καὶ τὰ κτήνη αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἐπληθύνθη ἐπ' αὐτοὺς τὰ κακά.
 31 Καὶ ἀνηγγέλη τοῖς ἀνδράσι τοῦ βασιλέως καὶ ταῖς δυνάμεσιν αἱ ἦσαν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ πόλει Δαυὶδ, ὅτι κατέβησαν ἄνδρες, οἵτινες διεσκέδασαν τὴν ἐντολὴν τοῦ βασιλέως, εἰς
 32 τοὺς κρύφους ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ. Καὶ ἔδραμον ὀπίσω αὐτῶν πολλοί· καὶ καταλαβόντες αὐτοὺς παρενέβαλον ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, καὶ συνεστήσαντο πρὸς αὐτοὺς πόλεμον ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῶν
 33 σαββάτων, καὶ εἶπον πρὸς αὐτοὺς, ἕως τοῦ νῦν ἱκανόν· ἐξέλθετε καὶ ποιήσατε κατὰ τὸν λόγον τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ ζήσεσθε.
 34 Καὶ εἶπον, οὐκ ἐξελευσόμεθα, οὐδὲ ποιήσομεν τὸν λόγον τοῦ βασιλέως, τοῦ βεβηλώσαι τὴν ἡμέραν τῶν σαββάτων.
 35, 36 Καὶ ἐτάχυναν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς πόλεμον. Καὶ οὐκ ἀπεκρίθησαν αὐτοῖς, οὐδὲ λίθον ἐνετίναξαν αὐτοῖς, οὐδὲ ἐνέφραξαν
 37 τοὺς κρύφους, λέγοντες, ἀποθάνωμεν πάντες ἐν τῇ ἀπλότῃ ἡμῶν· μαρτυρεῖ ἐφ' ἡμᾶς ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ, ὅτι ἀκρίτως
 38 ἀπόλλυτε ἡμᾶς. Καὶ ἀνέστησαν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ πολέμῳ τοῖς σάββασι, καὶ ἀπέθανον αὐτοὶ καὶ αἱ γυναῖκες αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ κτήνη αὐτῶν, ἕως χιλίων ψυχῶν ἀνθρώπων.
 39 Καὶ ἔγνω Ματταθίας καὶ οἱ φίλοι αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπένθησαν
 40 ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἕως σφόδρα. Καὶ εἶπεν ἀνὴρ τῷ πλησίον αὐτοῦ, εἰς πάντες ποιήσωμεν ὡς οἱ ἀδελφοὶ ἡμῶν ἐποίησαν, καὶ μὴ πολεμήσωμεν πρὸς τὰ ἔθνη ὑπὲρ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν καὶ τῶν δικαιωμάτων ἡμῶν, νῦν τάχιον ἡμᾶς ἐξολοθρεύουσιν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς.
 41 Καὶ ἐβουλεύσαντο τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ, λέγοντες, πᾶς ἄνθρωπος ὃς ἐὰν ἔλθῃ πρὸς ἡμᾶς εἰς πόλεμον τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων, πολεμήσωμεν κατέναντι αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐ μὴ ἀποθάνωμεν πάντες καθὼς ἀπέθανον οἱ ἀδελφοὶ ἡμῶν ἐν τοῖς κρύφοις.
 42 Τότε συνήχθησαν πρὸς αὐτοὺς συναγωγὴ Ἰουδαίων, ἰσχυροὶ δυνάμει ἀπὸ Ἰσραὴλ, πᾶς ὁ ἐκουσιαζόμενος τῷ νόμῳ.
 43 Καὶ πάντες οἱ φυγαδεύοντες ἀπὸ τῶν κακῶν προσετέθησαν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἐγένοντο αὐτοῖς εἰς στήριγμα. Καὶ συνεστήσαντο δύναμιν, καὶ ἐπάταξαν ἁμαρτωλοὺς ἐν ὀργῇ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἄνδρας ἀνόμους ἐν θυμῷ αὐτῶν· καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ ἔφυγον εἰς τὰ ἔθνη σωθῆναι.
 45 Καὶ ἐκύκλωσε Ματταθίας καὶ οἱ φίλοι αὐτοῦ, καὶ καθείλον
 46 τοὺς βωμούς. Καὶ περιέτεμον τὰ παιδάκια τὰ ἀπερίτμητα
 47 ὅσα εὗρον ἐν ὁρίοις Ἰσραὴλ ἐν ἰσχυρί. Καὶ ἐδίωξαν τοὺς υἱοὺς τῆς ὑπερηφανίας, καὶ κατευνώδωθη τὸ ἔργον ἐν χεὶρὶ αὐτῶν.
 48 Καὶ ἀντελάβοντο τοῦ νόμου ἐκ χειρὸς τῶν ἐθνῶν

pelled men to sacrifice, he killed at that time, and the altar he pulled down. ²⁶ Thus dealt he zealously for the law of God, like as Phinees did unto Zambri the son of Salom.

²⁷ And Mattathias cried throughout the city with a loud voice, saying, Whosoever is zealous of the law, and maintaineth the covenant, let him follow me. ²⁸ So he and his sons fled into the mountains, and left all that ever they had in the city.

²⁹ Then many that sought after justice and judgment went down into the wilderness, to dwell there: ³⁰ both they and their children, and their wives, and their cattle; because afflictions increased sore upon them.

³¹ Now when it was told the king's servants, and the host that was at Jerusalem, in the city of David, that certain men, who had broken the king's commandment, were gone down into the secret places in the wilderness, ³² they pursued after them a great number, and having overtaken them, they camped against them, and made war against them on the sabbath day. ³³ And they said unto them, Let that which ye have done hitherto suffice; come forth, and do according to the commandment of the king, and ye shall live.

³⁴ But they said, We will not come forth, neither will we do the king's commandment, to profane the sabbath day. ³⁵ So then they gave them the battle with all speed. ³⁶ Howbeit they answered them not, neither cast they a stone at them, nor stopped the places where they lay hid; ³⁷ but said, Let us die all in our innocency: heaven and earth shall testify for us, that ye put us to death wrongfully. ³⁸ So they rose up against them in battle on the sabbath, and they slew them, with their wives and children, and their cattle, to the number of a thousand people.

³⁹ Now when Mattathias and his friends understood hereof, they mourned for them right sore. ⁴⁰ And one of them said to another, If we all do as our brethren have done, and fight not for our lives and laws against the heathen, they will now quickly root us out of the earth.

⁴¹ At that time therefore they decreed, saying, Whosoever shall come to make battle with us on the sabbath day, we will fight against him: neither will we die all, as our brethren that were murdered in the secret places.

⁴² Then came there unto him a company of Assideans, who were mighty men of Israel, even all such as were voluntarily devoted unto the law. ⁴³ Also all they that fled for persecution joined themselves unto them, and were a stay unto them. ⁴⁴ So they joined their forces, and smote sinful men in their anger, and wicked men in their wrath: but the rest fled to the heathen for succour.

⁴⁵ Then Mattathias and his friends went round about, and pulled down the altars: ⁴⁶ and what children soever they found within the coast of Israel uncircumcised, those they circumcised valiantly. ⁴⁷ They pursued also after the proud men, and the work prospered in their hand. ⁴⁸ So they recovered the law out of the hand of the Gentiles, and out of the

hand of kings, neither suffered they the sinner to triumph.

⁴⁹ Now when the time drew near that Mattathias should die, he said unto his sons, Now have pride and rebuke gotten strength, and the time of destruction, and the wrath of indignation: ⁵⁰ now therefore, my sons, be ye zealous for the law, and give your lives for the covenant of your fathers. ⁵¹ Call to remembrance what acts our fathers did in their time; so shall ye receive great honour and an everlasting name. ⁵² Was not Abraham found faithful in temptation, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness? ⁵³ Joseph in the time of his distress kept the commandment, and was made lord of Egypt; ⁵⁴ Phinees our father in being zealous and fervent obtained the covenant of an everlasting priesthood.

⁵⁵ Jesus for fulfilling the word was made a judge in Israel. ⁵⁶ Caleb for bearing witness before the congregation received the heritage of the land. ⁵⁷ David for being merciful possessed the throne of an everlasting kingdom. ⁵⁸ Elias for being zealous and fervent for the law was taken up into heaven. ⁵⁹ Ananias, Azarias, and Misael, by believing were saved out of the flame. ⁶⁰ Daniel for his innocency was delivered from the mouth of lions. ⁶¹ And thus consider ye throughout all ages, that none that put their trust in him shall be overcome. ⁶² Fear not then the words of a sinful man: for his glory shall be dung and worms. ⁶³ To day he shall be lifted up, and to morrow he shall not be found, because he is returned into his dust, and his thought is come to nothing.

⁶⁴ Wherefore, ye my sons, be valiant, and shew yourselves men in the behalf of the law; for by it shall ye obtain glory. ⁶⁵ And, behold, I know that your brother Simon is a man of counsel, give ear unto him alway: he shall be a father unto you. ⁶⁶ As for Judas Maccabeus, he hath been mighty and strong, even from his youth up: let him be your captain, and fight the battle of the people.

⁶⁷ Take also unto you all those that observe the law, and avenge ye the wrong of your people. ⁶⁸ Recompense fully the heathen, and take heed to the commandments of the law. ⁶⁹ So he blessed them, and was gathered to his fathers. ⁷⁰ And he died in the hundred forty and sixth year, and his sons buried him in the sepulchres of his fathers at Modin, and all Israel made great lamentation for him.

Then his son Judas, called Maccabeus, rose up in his stead. ² And all his brethren helped him, and so did all they that held with his father, and they fought with cheerfulness the battle of Israel. ³ So he gat his people great honour, and put on a breastplate as a giant, and girt his warlike harness about him, and he made battles, protecting the host with his sword.

⁴ In his acts he was like a lion, and like a lion's whelp roaring for his prey. ⁵ For he pursued the wicked, and sought them out, and burnt up those that vexed his people. ⁶ Wherefore the wicked shrunk for fear of him, and all the workers of iniquity were troubled, because salvation prospered in his hand.

⁷ He grieved also many kings, and made

καὶ ἐκ χειρὸς τῶν βασιλέων· καὶ οὐκ ἔδωκαν κέρας τῷ ἀμαρτωλῷ.

Καὶ ἤγγισαν αἱ ἡμέραι τοῦ Ματθαίου ἀποθανεῖν, καὶ εἶπε 49 τοῖς υἱοῖς αὐτοῦ, νῦν ἐστηρίχθη ὑπερηφανία καὶ ἐλεγμὸς καὶ καιρὸς καταστροφῆς καὶ ὀργὴ θυμοῦ. Καὶ νῦν, τέκνα, ζηλώσατε 50 τῷ νόμῳ, καὶ δότε τὰς ψυχὰς ὑμῶν ὑπὲρ διαθήκης πατέρων ὑμῶν. Μνήσθητε τῶν πατέρων ὑμῶν τὰ ἔργα ἃ ἐποίησαν ἐν ταῖς γενεαῖς 51 αὐτῶν, καὶ δέξασθε δόξαν μεγάλην καὶ ὄνομα αἰώνιον. Ἀβραὰμ 52 οὐχὶ ἐν πειρασμῷ εὗρέθη πιστὸς, καὶ ἐλογίσθη αὐτῷ εἰς δικαιοσύνην; Ἰωσήφ ἐν καιρῷ στενοχωρίας αὐτοῦ ἐφύλαξεν ἐντολήν, 53 καὶ ἐγένετο κύριος Αἰγύπτου. Φινεὲς ὁ πατὴρ ὑμῶν ἐν τῷ 54 ζηλώσει ζῆλον, ἔλαβε διαθήκην ἱερωσύνης αἰωνίας.

Ἰησοῦς ἐν τῷ πληρῶσαι λόγον, ἐγένετο κριτὴς ἐν Ἰσραὴλ. 55 Χαλὲβ ἐν τῷ ἐπιμαρτύρασθαι ἐν τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ, ἔλαβε γῆς 56 κληρονομίαν. Δαυὶδ ἐν τῷ ἐλέῳ αὐτοῦ, ἐκληρονόμησε θρόνον 57 βασιλείας εἰς αἰῶνα αἰῶνος. Ἡλίας ἐν τῷ ζηλώσει ζῆλον 58 νόμον, ἀνελήφθη ἕως εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν. Ἀνανίας, Ἀζαρίας, 59 Μισαὴλ, πιστεύσαντες ἐσώθησαν ἐκ φλογός. Δανιὴλ ἐν τῇ 60 ἀπλότῃ αὐτοῦ ἐρρύσθη ἐκ στόματος λεόντων. Καὶ οὕτως 61 ἐννοήθητε κατὰ γενεὰν καὶ γενεὰν, ὅτι πάντες οἱ ἐλπίζοντες ἐπ' αὐτὸν οὐκ ἀσθενήσουσι. Καὶ ἀπὸ λόγων ἀνδρὸς ἀμαρτωλοῦ 62 μὴ φοβηθῆτε, ὅτι ἡ δόξα αὐτοῦ εἰς κοπρίαν καὶ εἰς σκώληκας. Σήμερον ἐπαρθήσεται, καὶ αὖριον οὐ μὴ εὗρεθῇ, ὅτι ἔστρεψεν 63 εἰς τὸν χοῦν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὁ διαλογισμὸς αὐτοῦ ἀπώλετο.

Καὶ ὑμεῖς, τέκνα, ἰσχύσατε καὶ ἀνδρίξεσθε ἐν τῷ νόμῳ, ὅτι ἐν 64 αὐτῷ δοξασθήσεσθε. Καὶ ἰδοὺ Συμεὼν ὁ ἀδελφὸς ὑμῶν, οἶδα 65 ὅτι ἀνὴρ βουλῆς ἐστίν, αὐτοῦ ἀκούετε πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας, αὐτὸς ὑμῖν ἔσται εἰς πατέρα. Καὶ Ἰούδας Μακκαβαῖος ἰσχυρὸς 66 δυνάμει ἐκ νεότητος αὐτοῦ, οὗτος ὑμῖν ἔσται ἄρχων στρατίας, καὶ πολεμήσει πόλεμον λαῶν.

Καὶ ὑμεῖς προσάξατε πρὸς ὑμᾶς πάντας τοὺς ποιητὰς τοῦ 67 νόμου, καὶ ἐκδικήσατε ἐκδίκησιν τοῦ λαοῦ ὑμῶν. Ἀνταπόδοτε 68 ἀνταπόδομα τοῖς ἔθνεσι, καὶ προσέχετε εἰς τὰ προσταγμάτων τοῦ νόμου. Καὶ εὐλόγησεν αὐτούς· καὶ προσετέθη πρὸς τοὺς 69 πατέρας αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἀπέθανεν ἐν τῷ ἔκτῳ καὶ τεσσαρακοστῷ 70 καὶ ἑκατοστῷ ἔτει· καὶ ἔθαψαν αὐτὸν οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ ἐν τάφοις πατέρων αὐτῶν ἐν Μωδεὶν, καὶ ἐκόψαντο αὐτὸν πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ κοπετὸν μέγαν.

Καὶ ἀνέστη Ἰούδας ὁ καλούμενος Μακκαβαῖος υἱὸς αὐτοῦ 3 ἀντ' αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐβοήθουν αὐτῷ πάντες οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ 2 πάντες ὅσοι ἐκολλήθησαν τῷ πατρὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπολέμουν τὸν πόλεμον Ἰσραὴλ μετ' εὐφροσύνης. Καὶ ἐπλάτυνε δόξαν τῷ 3 λαῷ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐνεδύσατο θώρακα ὡς γίγας, καὶ συνεζώσατο τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ τὰ πολεμικά· καὶ συνεστήσατο πολέμους σκεπάζων παρεμβολὴν ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ.

Καὶ ὁμοιώθη λέοντι ἐν τοῖς ἔργοις αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὡς σκύμνος 4 ἐρευγόμενος εἰς θήραν. Καὶ ἐδίωξεν ἀνόμους ἐξερευνῶν, καὶ 5 τοὺς ταρασσόντας τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ ἐφλόγισε. Καὶ συνεστά- 6 λησαν οἱ ἄνομοι ἀπὸ τοῦ φόβου αὐτοῦ, καὶ πάντες οἱ ἐργάται τῆς ἀνομίας συνεταράχθησαν, καὶ εὐδωδῶθη σωτηρία ἐν χειρὶ αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ ἐπύκρνε βασιλεῖς πολλοὺς, καὶ εὐφρανε τὸν Ἰακώβ ἐν 7

- τοῖς ἔργοις αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἕως τοῦ αἰῶνος τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτοῦ εἰς
8 εὐλογίαν. Καὶ διήλθεν ἐν πόλεσιν Ἰούδα, καὶ ἐξωλόθρευσεν
9 ἀσεβεῖς ἐξ αὐτῆς, καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν ὀργὴν ἀπὸ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ
ὠνομάσθη ἕως ἐσχάτου τῆς γῆς, καὶ συνήγαγεν ἀπολλυμέ-
νους.
- 10 Καὶ συνήγαγεν Ἀπολλώνιος ἔθνη, καὶ ἀπὸ Σαμαρείας δύναμιν
11 μεγάλην, τοῦ πολεμῆσαι πρὸς Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ ἔγνω Ἰούδας, καὶ
ἐξῆλθεν εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτόν, καὶ ἀπέκτεινεν
αὐτόν· καὶ ἔπεσον τραυματαῖα πολλοὶ, καὶ οἱ ἐπίλοιποι ἔφυγον.
- 12 Καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῶν, καὶ τὴν μάχαιραν Ἀπολλω-
νίου ἔλαβεν Ἰούδας, καὶ ἦν πολεμῶν ἐν αὐτῇ πάσας τὰς
ἡμέρας.
- 13 Καὶ ἤκουσε Σήρων ὁ ἄρχων τῆς δυνάμεως Συρίας, ὅτι ἤθροισεν
Ἰούδας ἄθροισμα, καὶ ἐκκλησίαν πιστῶν μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐκπορευο-
14 μένων εἰς πόλεμον. Καὶ εἶπε, ποιήσω ἐμαυτῷ ὄνομα· καὶ
δοξασθήσομαι ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ, καὶ πολεμήσω τὸν Ἰούδα καὶ
τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ, τοὺς ἐξουθενούντας τὸν λόγον τοῦ βασιλέως.
- 15 Καὶ προσέθετο τοῦ ἀναβῆναι· καὶ ἀνέβη μετ' αὐτοῦ παρεμβολὴ
ἀσεβῶν ἰσχυρὰ βοηθήσαι αὐτῷ, καὶ ποιῆσαι τὴν ἐκδίκησιν ἐν
υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ.
- 16 Καὶ ἤγγισαν ἕως ἀναβάσεως Βαιθωρῶν· καὶ ἐξῆλθεν Ἰούδας
17 εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτῷ ὀλιγοστός. Ὡς δὲ ἶδον τὴν παρεμβολὴν
ἐρχομένην εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτοῖς, εἶπον τῷ Ἰούδα, πῶς δυνησόμεθα
ὀλιγοστοὶ ὄντες πολεμῆσαι πρὸς πλῆθος τοσοῦτον ἰσχυρόν;
18 καὶ ἡμεῖς ἐκτελούμεθα ἀσιτοῦντες σήμερον. Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰούδας,
εὐκόπον ἐστὶ συγκλεισθῆναι πολλοὺς ἐν χερσὶν ὀλίγων· καὶ
οὐκ ἐστὶ διαφορὰ ἐναντίον τοῦ Θεοῦ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ σώζειν ἐν
19 πολλοῖς ἢ ἐν ὀλίγοις. Ὅτι οὐκ ἐν πλῆθει δυνάμεως νίκη
20 πολέμου ἐστίν, ἀλλ' ἢ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἡ ἰσχύς. Αὐτοὶ ἐρχονται
πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἐν πλῆθει ὕβρεως καὶ ἀνομίας, τοῦ ἐξῆραι ἡμᾶς καὶ
τὰς γυναῖκας ἡμῶν, καὶ τὰ τέκνα ἡμῶν, τοῦ σκυλεῦσαι ἡμᾶς.
- 21 Ἡμεῖς δὲ πολεμοῦμεν περὶ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν καὶ τῶν νομίμων
22 ἡμῶν. Καὶ αὐτὸς συντρίψει αὐτοὺς πρὸ προσώπου ἡμῶν·
ὑμεῖς δὲ μὴ φοβηθῆτε ἀπ' αὐτῶν.
- 23 Ὡς δὲ ἐπαύσατο λαλῶν, ἐνήλατο εἰς αὐτοὺς ἄφνω, καὶ
24 συνετρίβη Σήρων καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ. Καὶ
ἐδίωκον αὐτόν ἐν τῇ καταβάσει Βαιθωρῶν ἕως τοῦ πεδίου· καὶ
ἔπεσον ἀπ' αὐτῶν εἰς ἄνδρας ὀκτακοσίους· οἱ δὲ λοιποὶ ἔφυγον
25 εἰς γῆν Φυλιστιεῖμ. Καὶ ἤρξατο ὁ φόβος Ἰούδα καὶ τῶν
ἀδελφῶν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡ πτόησις ἐπιπίπτειν ἐπὶ τὰ ἔθνη τὰ κύκλῳ
26 αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἤγγισεν ἕως τοῦ βασιλέως τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ, καὶ
ὑπὲρ τῶν παρατάξεων Ἰούδα ἐξηγεῖτο πᾶν ἔθνος.
- 27 Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν Ἀντίοχος ὁ βασιλεὺς τοὺς λόγους τούτους,
ὠργίσθη θυμῷ· καὶ ἀπέστειλε καὶ συνήγαγε τὰς δυνάμεις
28 πάσας τῆς βασιλείας αὐτοῦ, παρεμβολὴν ἰσχυρὰν σφόδρα. Καὶ
ἤνοιξε τὸ γαζοφυλάκιον αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔδωκεν ὀψῶνια ταῖς δυνά-
μεσιν αὐτοῦ εἰς ἐνιαυτόν· καὶ ἐνετείλατο εἶναι αὐτοὺς ἐτοιμοὺς
εἰς πᾶσαν χρεῖαν.
- 29 Καὶ εἶδεν ὅτι ἐξέλιπε τὸ ἀργύριον ἀπὸ τῶν θησαυρῶν, καὶ οἱ
φορολόγοι τῆς χώρας ὀλίγοι, χάριν τῆς διχοστασίας καὶ πληγῆς
ἧς κατεσκεύασεν ἐν τῇ γῇ, τοῦ ἄραι τὰ νόμιμα ἃ ἦσαν ἀφ'

Jacob glad with his acts, and his memorial is blessed for ever. ⁸ Moreover he went through the cities of Juda, destroying the ungodly out of them, and turning away wrath from Israel: ⁹ so that he was renowned unto the utmost part of the earth, and he received unto him such as were ready to perish.

¹⁰ Then Apollonius gathered the Gentiles together, and a great host out of Samaria, to fight against Israel. ¹¹ Which thing when Judas perceived, he went forth to meet him, and so he smote him, and slew him: many also fell down slain, but the rest fled. ¹² Wherefore Judas took their spoils, and Apollonius' sword also, and therewith he fought all his life long.

¹³ Now when Seron, a prince of the army of Syria, heard say that Judas had gathered unto him a multitude and company of the faithful to go out with him to war; ¹⁴ he said, I will get me a name and honour in the kingdom; for I will go fight with Judas and them that are with him, who despise the king's commandment. ¹⁵ So he made him ready to go up, and there went with him a mighty host of the ungodly to help him, and to be avenged of the children of Israel.

¹⁶ And when he came near to the going up of Bethhoron, Judas went forth to meet him with a small company: ¹⁷ who, when they saw the host coming to meet them, said unto Judas, How shall we be able, being so few, to fight against so great a multitude and so strong, seeing we are ready to faint with fasting all this day? ¹⁸ Unto whom Judas answered, It is no hard matter for many to be shut up in the hands of a few; and with *the God* of heaven it is all one, to deliver with a great multitude, or a small company; ¹⁹ for the victory of battle standeth not in the multitude of an host; but strength cometh from heaven. ²⁰ They come against us in much pride and iniquity to destroy us, and our wives and children, and to spoil us: ²¹ but we fight for our lives and our laws. ²² Wherefore the Lord himself will overthrow them before our face: and as for you, be ye not afraid of them.

²³ Now as soon as he had left off speaking, he leaped suddenly upon them, and so Seron and his host were overthrown before him. ²⁴ And they pursued them from the going down of Bethhoron unto the plain, where were slain about eight hundred men of them; and the residue fled into the land of the Philistines. ²⁵ Then began the fear of Judas and his brethren, and exceeding great dread, to fall upon the nations round about them: ²⁶ insomuch as his fame came unto the king, and all nations talked of the battles of Judas.

²⁷ Now when king Antiochus heard these things, he was full of indignation: wherefore he sent and gathered together all the forces of his realm, *even* a very strong army. ²⁸ He opened also his treasure, and gave his soldiers pay for a year, commanding them to be ready whensoever he should need them.

²⁹ Nevertheless, when he saw that the money of his treasures failed, and that the tributes in the country were small, because of the dissension and plague, which he had brought upon the land in taking away the

laws which had been of old time; ³⁰ he feared that he should not be able to bear the charges any longer, nor to have such gifts to give so liberally as he did before: for he had abounded above the kings that were before him.

³¹ Wherefore, being greatly perplexed in his mind, he determined to go into Persia, there to take the tributes of the countries, and to gather much money. ³² So he left Lysias, a nobleman, and one of the blood royal, to oversee the affairs of the king from the river Euphrates unto the borders of Egypt: ³³ and to bring up his son Antiochus, until he came again.

³⁴ Moreover he delivered unto him the half of his forces, and the elephants, and gave him charge of all things that he would have done, as also concerning them that dwelt in Juda and Jerusalem; ³⁵ to wit, that he should send an army against them, to destroy and root out the strength of Israel, and the remnant of Jerusalem, and to take away their memorial from that place; ³⁶ and that he should place strangers in all their quarters, and divide their land by lot. ³⁷ So the king took the half of the forces that remained, and departed from Antioch, his royal city, the hundred forty and seventh year; and he passed the river Euphrates, and went through the high countries.

³⁸ Then Lysias chose Ptolemee the son of Dorymenes, and Nicanor, and Gorgias, mighty men of the king's friends: ³⁹ and with them he sent forty thousand footmen, and seven thousand horsemen, to go into the land of Juda, and to destroy it, as the king commanded. ⁴⁰ So they went forth with all their power, and came and pitched by Emmaus in the plain country.

⁴¹ And the merchants of the country, hearing the fame of them, took silver and gold very much, with servants, and came into the camp to buy the children of Israel for slaves: a power also of Syria and of the land of the Philistines joined themselves unto them.

⁴² Now when Judas and his brethren saw that miseries were multiplied, and that the forces did encamp themselves in their borders; for they knew how the king had given commandment to destroy the people, and utterly abolish them; ⁴³ they said one to another, Let us restore the decayed estate of our people, and let us fight for our people and the sanctuary.

⁴⁴ Then the congregation gathered together, that they might be ready for battle, and that they might pray, and ask mercy and compassion.

⁴⁵ Now Jerusalem was laid void as a wilderness, there was none of her children that went in or out: the sanctuary also was trodden down, and aliens kept the strong hold; the heathen had their habitation in that place; and joy was taken from Jacob, and the pipe with the harp ceased. ⁴⁶ Wherefore the Israelites assembled themselves together, and came to Maspha, over against Jerusalem; for in Maspha was the place where they prayed aforetime in Israel.

⁴⁷ Then they fasted that day, and put on sackcloth, and cast ashes upon their heads, and rent their clothes, ⁴⁸ and laid open the book of the law, wherein the heathen had

ἡμερῶν τῶν πρώτων. Καὶ εὐλαβήθη μὴ οὐκ ἔχη ὡς ἅπαξ καὶ 30
οἷς εἰς τὰς δαπάνας καὶ τὰ δόματα ἃ ἐδίδον ἔμπροσθεν δαψιλεῖ
χειρὶ, καὶ ἐπερίσσευσεν ὑπὲρ τοὺς βασιλεῖς τοὺς ἔμπροσθεν.

Καὶ ἤπορεύετο τῇ ψυχῇ αὐτοῦ σφόδρα, καὶ ἐβουλεύσατο τοῦ 31
πορευθῆναι εἰς τὴν Περσίδα, καὶ λαβεῖν τοὺς φόρους τῶν χωρῶν,
καὶ συναγαγεῖν ἀργύριον πολὺ. Καὶ κατέλιπε Λυσίαν ἄνθρωπον 32
ἐνδοξον καὶ ἀπὸ γένους τῆς βασιλείας, ἐπὶ τῶν πραγμάτων τοῦ
βασιλέως ἀπὸ τοῦ ποταμοῦ Εὐφράτου ἕως τῶν ὁρίων Αἰγύπτου, 33
καὶ τρέφειν Ἀντίοχον τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ ἕως τοῦ ἐπιστρέφαι αὐτόν.

Καὶ παρέδωκεν αὐτῷ τὰς ἡμίσεις τῶν δυνάμεων καὶ τοὺς 34
ἐλέφαντας· καὶ ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ περὶ πάντων ὧν ἐβούλετο, καὶ
περὶ τῶν κατοικούντων τὴν Ἰουδαίαν καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ἀποστεῖλαι 35
ἐπ' αὐτοὺς δύναμιν, τοῦ ἐκτρίψαι καὶ ἐξᾶραι τὴν ἰσχὺν Ἰσραὴλ,
καὶ τὸ κατάλειμμα Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἄραι τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτῶν
ἀπὸ τοῦ τόπου, καὶ κατοικῆσαι υἱοὺς ἀλλογενεῖς ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς 36
ὁρίοις αὐτῶν, καὶ κατακληροδοτῆσαι τὴν γῆν αὐτῶν. Καὶ ὁ 37
βασιλεὺς παρέλαβε τὰς ἡμίσεις τῶν δυνάμεων τὰς καταλειφ-
θείσας, καὶ ἀπῆρεν ἀπὸ Ἀντιοχείας ἀπὸ πόλεως βασιλείας
αὐτοῦ, ἔτους ἐβδόμου καὶ τεσσαρακοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ· καὶ
διεπέρασε τὸν Εὐφράτην ποταμὸν, καὶ διεπορεύετο τὰς ἐπάνω
χώρας.

Καὶ ἐπέλεξε Λυσίας Πτολεμαῖον τὸν Δορυμένους, καὶ Νικά- 38
νορα, καὶ Γοργίαν, ἄνδρας δυνατοὺς τῶν φίλων τοῦ βασιλέως.
Καὶ ἀπέστειλε μετ' αὐτῶν τεσσαράκοντα χιλιάδας ἀνδρῶν καὶ 39
ἑπτακισχιλίαν ἵππων, τοῦ ἐλθεῖν εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα, καὶ καταφθεῖραι
αὐτήν, κατὰ τὸν λόγον τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ ἀπῆραν σὺν πάσῃ 40
τῇ δυνάμει αὐτῶν, καὶ ἦλθον, καὶ παρενέβαλον πλησίον
Ἑμμαοῦ ἐν τῇ γῇ τῇ πεδινῇ.

Καὶ ἤκουσαν οἱ ἔμποροι τῆς χώρας τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῶν, καὶ 41
ἔλαβον ἀργύριον καὶ χρυσίον πολὺ σφόδρα καὶ παῖδας, καὶ
ἦλθον εἰς τὴν παρεμβολὴν τοῦ λαβεῖν τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἰσραὴλ εἰς
παῖδας· καὶ προσετέθησαν πρὸς αὐτοὺς δύναμις Συρίας καὶ γῆς
ἀλλοφύλων.

Καὶ εἶδεν Ἰούδας καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ ὅτι ἐπληθύνθη τὰ 42
κακὰ, καὶ αἱ δυνάμεις παρεμβάλλουσιν ἐν τοῖς ὁρίοις αὐτῶν·
καὶ ἐπέγνωσαν τοὺς λόγους τοῦ βασιλέως οὓς ἐνετείλατο ποιῆσαι
τῷ λαῷ εἰς ἀπώλειαν καὶ συντέλειαν· καὶ εἶπεν ἕκαστος 43
πρὸς τὸν πλησίον αὐτοῦ, ἀναστήσωμεν τὴν καθαίρεσιν τοῦ
λαοῦ ἡμῶν, καὶ πολεμήσωμεν περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ ἡμῶν καὶ τῶν
ἀγίων.

Καὶ συνηθοίσθη ἡ συναγωγὴ τοῦ εἶναι ἐτοίμους εἰς πόλεμον, 44
καὶ τοῦ προσεύξασθαι, καὶ αἰτῆσαι ἔλεον καὶ οἰκτιρμούς.

Καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἦν ἀοίκητος ὡς ἔρημος, οὐκ ἦν ὁ εἰσπο- 45
ρευόμενος καὶ ἐκπορευόμενος ἐκ τῶν γεννημάτων αὐτῆς· καὶ τὸ
ἁγίασμα καταπατούμενον, καὶ υἱοὶ ἀλλογενῶν ἐν τῇ ἄκρᾳ,
κατάλυμα τοῖς ἔθνεσι· καὶ ἐξήρθη τέρψις ἐξ Ἰακώβ, καὶ
ἐξέλιπεν αὐλὸς καὶ κινύρα. Καὶ συνήχθησαν, καὶ ἦλθοσαν εἰς 46
Μασσηφὰ κατέναντι Ἱερουσαλὴμ, ὅτι τόπος προσευχῆς εἰς
Μασσηφὰ τὸ πρότερον τῷ Ἰσραὴλ.

Καὶ ἐνήστευσαν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ, καὶ περιεβάλοντο σάκκους 47
καὶ σποδὸν ἐπὶ τὰς κεφαλὰς αὐτῶν, καὶ διέρρηξαν τὰ ἱμάτια
αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐξεπέτασαν τὸ βιβλίον τοῦ νόμου, περὶ ὧν 48

49 ἐξηρεύνων τὰ ἔθνη τὰ ὁμοιώματα τῶν εἰδώλων αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἤνεγκαν τὰ ἱμάτια τῆς ἱερwsύνης, καὶ τὰ πρωτογεννήματα, καὶ τὰς δεκάτας· καὶ ἤγειραν τοὺς Ναζαραίους, οἱ ἐπλήρωσαν τὰς ἡμέρας.

50 Καὶ ἐβόησαν φωνῇ εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν, λέγοντες, τί ποιήσωμεν
51 τούτοις, καὶ ποῦ αὐτοὺς ἀπαγάγωμεν; Καὶ τὰ ἁγία σου καταπεπάτῃται, καὶ βεβήλωται· καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς σου ἐν πένθει καὶ
52 ταπεινώσει. Καὶ ἰδοὺ τὰ ἔθνη συνῆκται ἐφ' ἡμᾶς τοῦ ἐξᾶραι
53 ἡμᾶς· σὺ οἶδας ἃ λογίζονται ἐφ' ἡμᾶς. Πῶς δυνησόμεθα ὑποστῆναι κατὰ πρόσωπον αὐτῶν, ἐὰν μὴ σὺ βοηθήσης
54 ἡμῖν; Καὶ ἐσάλπισαν ταῖς σάλπιγξι, καὶ ἐβόησαν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ.

55 Καὶ μετὰ τοῦτο κατέστησεν Ἰούδας ἡγουμένους τοῦ λαοῦ, χιλιάρχους, καὶ ἑκατοντάρχους, καὶ πεντηκοντάρχους, καὶ δεκ-
56 ἀρχους. Καὶ εἶπον τοῖς οἰκοδομοῦσιν οἰκίας, καὶ μνηστευομέ-
νους γυναῖκας, καὶ φυτεύουσιν ἀμπελῶνας, καὶ δειλοῖς, ἀπο-
στρέφειν ἕκαστον εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ, κατὰ τὸν νόμον.

57 Καὶ ἀπῆρεν ἡ παρεμβολή, καὶ παρενέβαλε κατὰ Νότον
58 Ἑμμαοῦμ. Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰούδας, περιζώσασθε, καὶ γίνεσθε εἰς
υἱοὺς δυνατοῦς, καὶ γίνεσθε ἔτοιμοι εἰς τοπρῶν τοῦ πολεμῆσαι ἐν
τοῖς ἔθνεσι τούτοις, τοῖς ἐπισυνηγμένοις ἐφ' ἡμᾶς ἐξᾶραι ἡμᾶς
59 καὶ τὰ ἁγία ἡμῶν. Ὅτι κρείσσον ἡμᾶς ἀποθανεῖν ἐν τῷ
πολέμῳ, ἢ ἐπιδεῖν ἐπὶ τὰ κακὰ τοῦ ἔθνους ἡμῶν καὶ τῶν ἁγίων·
60 Ὡς δ' ἂν ᾗ θέλημα ἐν οὐρανῷ, οὕτω ποιήσει.

4 Καὶ παρέλαβε Γοργίας πεντακισχιλίους ἄνδρας καὶ χιλίαν
2 ἵππον ἐκλεκτὴν, καὶ ἀπῆρεν ἡ παρεμβολή νυκτὸς, ὥστε ἐπι-
βαλεῖν ἐπὶ τὴν παρεμβολὴν τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ πατάξαι αὐτοὺς
3 ἄφνω· καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ τῆς ἄκρας ἦσαν αὐτῷ ὁδηγοί. Καὶ ἤκουσεν
Ἰούδας, καὶ ἀπῆρεν αὐτὸς καὶ οἱ δυνατοὶ πατάξαι τὴν δύναμιν
4 τοῦ βασιλέως τὴν ἐν Ἑμμαοῦμ, ἕως ἔτι αἱ δυνάμεις ἐσκορ-
πισμέναι ἦσαν ἀπὸ τῆς παρεμβολῆς.

5 Καὶ ἦλθε Γοργίας εἰς τὴν παρεμβολὴν Ἰούδα νυκτὸς, καὶ
οὐδένα εὔρε· καὶ ἐζήτηί αὐτοὺς ἐν τοῖς ὄρεσιν, ὅτι εἶπε, φεύγουσιν
οὗτοι ἀφ' ἡμῶν.

6 Καὶ ἄμα τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὥφθη Ἰούδας ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ ἐν τρισχιλίοις
ἀνδράσι· πλὴν καλύμματα καὶ μαχαίρας οὐκ εἶχον καθὼς
7 ἠβούλοντο. Καὶ εἶδον παρεμβολὴν ἐθνῶν ἰσχυρὰν, τεθωρακισ-
μένην, καὶ ἵππον κυκλοῦσαν αὐτὴν, καὶ οὗτοι διδακτοὶ
πολέμου.

8 Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰούδας τοῖς ἀνδράσι τοῖς μετ' αὐτοῦ, μὴ φοβεῖσθε
τὸ πλῆθος αὐτῶν, καὶ τὸ ὄρμημα αὐτῶν μὴ δειλωθῇτε.
9 Μνήσθητε πῶς ἐσώθησαν οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν ἐν θαλάσῃ ἐρυθρᾷ,
10 ὅτε ἐδίωξεν αὐτοὺς Φαραὼ ἐν δυνάμει. Καὶ νῦν βοήσωμεν εἰς
τὸν οὐρανὸν, εἰπὼς ἐλεήσει ἡμᾶς, καὶ μνησθήσεται διαθήκης
πατέρων ἡμῶν, καὶ συντρίψει τὴν παρεμβολὴν ταύτην κατὰ
11 πρόσωπον ἡμῶν σήμερον. Καὶ γινώσεται πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, ὅτι
ἐστὶν ὁ λυτρούμενος καὶ σώζων τὸν Ἰσραήλ.

12 Καὶ ἦσαν οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῶν, καὶ ἶδον

sought to paint the likeness of their images. ⁴⁹ They brought also the priest's garments, and the firstfruits, and the tithes: and the Nazarites they stirred up, who had accomplished their days.

⁵⁰ Then cried they with a loud voice toward heaven, saying, What shall we do with these, and whither shall we carry them away? ⁵¹ For thy sanctuary is trodden down and profaned, and thy priests are in heaviness, and brought low. ⁵² And, lo, the heathen are assembled together against us to destroy us: what things they imagine against us, thou knowest. ⁵³ How shall we be able to stand against them, except thou, O God, be our help? ⁵⁴ Then sounded they with trumpets, and cried with a loud voice.

⁵⁵ And after this Judas ordained captains over the people, even captains over thousands, and over hundreds, and over fifties, and over tens. ⁵⁶ But as for such as were building houses, or had betrothed wives, or were planting vineyards, or were fearful, those he commanded that they should return, every man to his own house, according to the law.

⁵⁷ So the camp removed, and pitched upon the south side of Emmaus. ⁵⁸ And Judas said, Arm yourselves, and be valiant men, and see that ye be in readiness against the morning, that ye may fight with these nations, that are assembled together against us to destroy us and our sanctuary: ⁵⁹ for it is better for us to die in battle, than to behold the calamities of our people and our sanctuary. ⁶⁰ Nevertheless, as the will of God is in heaven, so let him do.

Then took Gorgias five thousand footmen, and a thousand of the best horsemen, and removed out of the camp by night; ² to the end he might rush in upon the camp of the Jews, and smite them suddenly. And the men of the fortress were his guides. ³ Now when Judas heard thereof, he himself removed, and the valiant men with him, that he might smite the king's army which was at Emmaus, ⁴ while as yet the forces were dispersed from the camp.

⁵ In the mean season came Gorgias by night into the camp of Judas: and when he found no man there, he sought them in the mountains: for he said, These fellows flee from us.

⁶ But as soon as it was day, Judas shewed himself in the plain with three thousand men, who nevertheless had neither armour nor swords to their minds. ⁷ And they saw the camp of the heathen, that it was strong and well harnesssed, and compassed round about with horsemen; and these were expert of war.

⁸ Then said Judas to the men that were with him, Fear ye not their multitude, neither be ye afraid of their assault. ⁹ Remember how our fathers were delivered in the Red sea, when Pharaoh pursued them with an army. ¹⁰ Now therefore let us cry unto heaven, if peradventure the Lord will have mercy upon us, and remember the covenant of our fathers, and destroy this host before our face this day: ¹¹ that so all the heathen may know that there is one who delivereth and saveth Israel.

¹² Then the strangers lifted up their eyes, and saw them coming over against them.

¹³ Wherefore they went out of the camp to battle; but they that were with Judas sounded their trumpets. ¹⁴ So they joined battle, and the heathen being discomfited, fled into the plain. ¹⁵ Howbeit all the hindmost of them were slain with the sword: for they pursued them unto Gazera, and unto the plains of Idumea, and Azotus, and Jamnia, so that there were slain of them as many as three thousand men.

¹⁶ This done, Judas returned again with his host from pursuing them, ¹⁷ and said to the people, Be not greedy of the spoils, inasmuch as there is a battle before us, ¹⁸ and Gorgias and his host are here by us in the mountain: but stand ye now against our enemies, and overcome them, and after this ye may boldly take the spoils.

¹⁹ As Judas was yet speaking these words, there appeared a part of them looking out of the mountain: ²⁰ who when they perceived that the Jews had put their host to flight, and were burning the tents; for the smoke that was seen declared what was done: ²¹ when therefore they perceived these things, they were sore afraid, and seeing also the host of Judas in the plain ready to fight, ²² they fled every one into the land of strangers. ²³ Then Judas returned to spoil the tents, where they got much gold, and silver, and blue silk, and purple of the sea, and great riches. ²⁴ After this they went home, and sung a song of thanksgiving, and praised the Lord in heaven: because it is good, because his mercy *endureth* for ever. ²⁵ Thus Israel had a great deliverance that day.

²⁶ Now all the strangers that had escaped came and told Lysias what had happened: ²⁷ who, when he heard thereof, was confounded and discouraged, because neither such things as he would were done unto Israel, nor such things as the king commanded him were come to pass.

²⁸ In the following year therefore, Lysias gathered together threescore thousand choice men *of foot*, and five thousand horsemen, that he might subdue them. ²⁹ So they came into Idumea, and pitched their tents at Bethsura, and Judas met them with ten thousand men.

³⁰ And when he saw that mighty army, he prayed and said, Blessed art thou, O Saviour of Israel, who didst quell the violence of the mighty man by the hand of thy servant David, and gavest the host of strangers into the hands of Jonathan the son of Saul, and his armour-bearer; ³¹ shut up this army in the hand of thy people Israel, and let them be confounded in their power and horsemen: ³² make them to be of no courage, and cause the boldness of their strength to fall away, and let them quake at their destruction: ³³ cast them down with the sword of them that love thee, and let all those that know thy name praise thee with thanksgiving.

³⁴ So they joined battle; and there were slain of the host of Lysias about five thousand men, even before them were they slain.

³⁵ Now when Lysias saw his army put to flight, and the manliness of Judas' soldiers, and how they were ready either to live or die valiantly, he went into Antiochia, and gathered together a company of strangers,

αὐτοὺς ἐρχομένους ἐξεναντίας, καὶ ἐξήλθον ἐκ τῆς παρεμβολῆς ¹³
εἰς πόλεμον· καὶ ἐσάλπισαν οἱ μετὰ Ἰούδα. Καὶ συνήψαν, ¹⁴
καὶ συνετρίβησαν τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς τὸ πεδῖον. Οἱ δὲ ¹⁵
ἔσχατοι πάντες ἔπεσον ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ· καὶ ἐδίωξαν αὐτοὺς ἕως
Γαζερῶν καὶ ἕως τῶν πεδίων τῆς Ἰδουμαίας καὶ Ἀζώτου καὶ
Ἰαμνίας, καὶ ἔπεσον ἐξ αὐτῶν εἰς ἄνδρας τρισχιλίους.

Καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν Ἰούδας καὶ ἡ δύναμις ἀπὸ τοῦ διώκειν ¹⁶
ὀπισθεν αὐτῶν, καὶ εἶπε πρὸς τὸν λαὸν, μὴ ἐπιθυμήσητε τῶν ¹⁷
σκύλων, ὅτι πόλεμος ἐξεναντίας ἡμῶν, καὶ Γοργίας καὶ ἡ ¹⁸
δύναμις ἐν τῷ ὄρει ἐγγὺς ἡμῶν· ἀλλὰ στήτε νῦν ἐναντίον τῶν
ἐχθρῶν ἡμῶν, καὶ πολεμήσατε αὐτοὺς, καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα λήψετε
τὰ σκύλα μετὰ παρρησίας.

Ἔτι λαλοῦντος Ἰούδα ταῦτα, ὥφθη μέρος τι ἐκκύπτον ἐκ ¹⁹
τοῦ ὄρους. Καὶ εἶδεν ὅτι τετρόπωνται, καὶ ἐμπυρίζουσι τὴν ²⁰
παραμβολήν, ὃ γὰρ καπνὸς θεωρούμενος ἐνεφάνιζε τὸ γεγονός.
Οἱ δὲ ταῦτα συνιδόντες ἐδειλώθησαν σφόδρα· συνιδόντες δὲ καὶ ²¹
τὴν Ἰούδα παρεμβολήν ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ ἐτοίμην εἰς παράταξιν, ²²
ἔφυγον πάντες εἰς γῆν ἀλλοφύλων. Καὶ ἀνέστρεψεν Ἰούδας ²³
ἐπὶ τὴν σκυλείαν τῆς παρεμβολῆς· καὶ ἔλαβον χρυσίον πολὺ
καὶ ἀργύριον καὶ ὑάκινθον καὶ πορφύραν θαλασσίαν καὶ
πλοῦτον μέγαν. Καὶ ἐπιστραφέντες ὕμνον καὶ εὐλόγουν ²⁴
εἰς οὐρανὸν τὸν Κύριον, ὅτι καλὸν, ὅτι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸ ἔλεος ²⁵
αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐγένετο σωτηρία μεγάλη τῷ Ἰσραὴλ ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ
ἐκείνῃ.

Ὅσοι δὲ τῶν ἀλλοφύλων διεσώθησαν, παραγενηθέντες ²⁶
ἀπήγγειλαν τῷ Λυσίᾳ πάντα τὰ συμβεβηκότα. Ὁ δὲ ἀκούσας ²⁷
συνεχύθη καὶ ἠθύμει, ὅτι οὐχ οἷα ἤθελε, τοιαῦτα γέγονει τῷ
Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ οὐχ οἷα ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ ὁ βασιλεὺς, τοιαῦτα
ἐξέβη.

Καὶ ἐν τῷ ἐχομένῳ ἐνιαυτῷ συνελόχησεν ὁ Λυσίας ἀνδρῶν ²⁸
ἐπιλέκτων ἐξήκοντα χιλιάδας καὶ πεντακισχιλίαν ἵππον, ὥστε
ἐκπολεμῆσαι αὐτούς. Καὶ ἦλθον εἰς τὴν Ἰδουμαίαν, καὶ παρεν- ²⁹
έβαλον ἐν Βαιθσοῦροις, καὶ συνήντησεν αὐτοῖς Ἰούδας ἐν δέκα
χιλίασιν ἀνδρῶν.

Καὶ εἶδε τὴν παρεμβολὴν ἰσχυρὰν, καὶ προσηύξατο, καὶ ³⁰
εἶπεν, εὐλογητὸς εἶ, ὁ σωτὴρ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ὁ συντρίψας τὸ
ὄρμημα τοῦ δυνατοῦ ἐν χειρὶ τοῦ δούλου σου Δαυὶδ, καὶ παρ-
έδωκας τὴν παρεμβολὴν τῶν ἀλλοφύλων εἰς χεῖρας Ἰωνάθαν
υἱοῦ Σαοὺλ, καὶ τοῦ αἵροντος τὰ σκεύη αὐτοῦ. Σύγκλεισον ³¹
τὴν παρεμβολὴν ταύτην ἐν χειρὶ λαοῦ σου Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ αἰσχν-
θήτωσαν ἐπὶ τῇ δυνάμει καὶ τῇ ἵππῳ αὐτῶν. Δὸς αὐτοῖς ³²
δειλίαν, καὶ τῆξον θράσος ἰσχύος αὐτῶν, καὶ σαλευθήτωσαν τῇ
συντριβῇ αὐτῶν. Κατάβαλε αὐτοὺς ῥομφαία ἀγαπώντων σε, ³³
καὶ αἰνεσάτωσάν σε πάντες οἱ εἰδότες τὸ ὄνομά σου ἐν
ὕμνοις.

Καὶ συνέβαλον ἀλλήλοις, καὶ ἔπεσον ἐκ τῆς παρεμβολῆς ³⁴
Λυσίου εἰς πεντακισχιλίους ἄνδρας, καὶ ἔπεσον ἐξ ἐναντίας
αὐτῶν.

Ἰδὼν δὲ Λυσίας τὴν γενομένην τροπὴν, τῆς αὐτοῦ συντάξεως, ³⁵
τῆς δὲ Ἰούδα τὸ γεγεννημένον θάσος, καὶ ὡς ἐτοιμοὶ εἰσιν ἢ ζῆν
ἢ τεθνάναι γενναίως, ἀπῆρεν εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν, καὶ ἐξενολόγει·

καὶ πλεονάσας τὸν γενηθέντα στρατὸν, ἐλογίζετο πάλιν παραγενέσθαι εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν.

36 Εἶπε δὲ Ἰούδας καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ, Ἰδοὺ συνετρίβησαν οἱ
37 ἐχθροὶ ἡμῶν, ἀναβῶμεν καθαρῖσαι τὰ ἅγια καὶ ἐγκαινίσαι. Καὶ
38 συνήχθη ἡ παρεμβολὴ πᾶσα, καὶ ἀνέβησαν εἰς ὄρος Σιών. Καὶ
ἶδον τὸ ἅγίασμα ἡρημωμένον, καὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον βεβηλω-
μένον, καὶ τὰς πύλας κατακεκαυμένας, καὶ ἐν ταῖς αὐλαῖς φυτὰ
πεφυκότα ὡς ἐν δρυμῷ ἢ ὡς ἐν ἐνὶ τῶν ὀρέων, καὶ τὰ παστοφόρια
39 καθηρημένα. Καὶ διέβρῃξαν τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐκόψαντο
κοπετὸν μέγαν, καὶ ἐπέθεντο σποδὸν ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτῶν.
40 Καὶ ἔπεσον ἐπὶ πρόσωπον ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν, καὶ ἐσάλπισαν ταῖς
σάλπιγξι τῶν σημασιῶν, καὶ ἐβόησαν εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν.

41 Τότε ἐπέταξεν Ἰούδας ἄνδρας πολεμεῖν τοὺς ἐν τῇ ἄκρᾳ, ἕως
42 ἂν καθαρῖση τὰ ἅγια. Καὶ ἐπέλεξεν ἱερεῖς ἀμώμους, θελητὰς
43 νόμον. Καὶ ἐκαθάρισαν τὰ ἅγια, καὶ ἤραν τοὺς λίθους τοῦ
44 μiasμοῦ εἰς τόπον ἀκάθαρτον. Καὶ ἐβουλευσάντο περὶ τοῦ
θυσιαστηρίου τῆς ὀλοκαυτώσεως τοῦ βεβηλωμένου, τί αὐτῷ
45 ποιήσωσι. Καὶ ἐπέπεσεν αὐτοῖς βουλή ἀγαθὴ, καθελεῖν αὐτὸ,
μήποτε γένηται αὐτοῖς εἰς ὄνειδος, ὅτι ἐμίαναν τὰ ἔθνη αὐτό.
46 καὶ καθείλον τὸ θυσιαστήριον, καὶ ἀπέθεντο τοὺς λίθους ἐν τῷ
ὄρει τοῦ οἴκου, ἐν τόπῳ ἐπιτηδείῳ, μέχρι τοῦ παραγενηθῆναι
προφήτην τοῦ ἀποκριθῆναι περὶ αὐτῶν.

47 Καὶ ἔλαβον λίθους ὀλοκλήρους κατὰ τὸν νόμον, καὶ ὤκοδό-
48 μησαν τὸ θυσιαστήριον καινὸν κατὰ τὸ πρότερον. Καὶ ὤκοδό-
μησαν τὰ ἅγια καὶ τὰ ἐντὸς τοῦ οἴκου, καὶ τὰς αὐλὰς ἡγίασαν.
49 Καὶ ἐποίησαν σκευὴ ἅγια καινὰ, καὶ εἰσῆνεγκαν τὴν λυχνίαν
καὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον τῶν θυμιαμάτων καὶ τὴν τράπεζαν εἰς τὸν
ναόν.

50 Καὶ ἐθυμίασαν ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον, καὶ ἐξῆψαν τοὺς
51 λύχνους τοὺς ἐπὶ τῆς λυχνίας, καὶ ἐφαίνοσαν ἐν τῷ ναῷ. Καὶ
ἐπέθηκαν ἐπὶ τὴν τράπεζαν ἄρτους, καὶ ἐξεπέτασαν τὰ κατα-
πετάσματα· καὶ ἐτέλεσαν πάντα τὰ ἔργα ἃ ἐποίησαν.

52 Καὶ ὤρθησαν τοπρῶι τῇ πέμπτῃ καὶ εἰκάδι τοῦ μηνὸς τοῦ
ἐννάτου· οὗτος ὁ μὴν Χασελεῦ τοῦ ὀγδόου καὶ τεσσαρακοστοῦ
53 καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ ἔτους. Καὶ ἀνήνεγκαν θυσίαν κατὰ τὸν νόμον
ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον τῶν ὀλοκαυτωμάτων τὸ καινὸν ὃ ἐποίησαν.
54 Κατὰ τὸν καιρὸν καὶ κατὰ τὴν ἡμέραν ἐν ᾗ ἐβεβήλωσαν αὐτὸ
τὰ ἔθνη, ἐν ἐκείνῃ ἐνεκαίνισθη ἐν ὡδαῖς καὶ κιθάραις καὶ
55 κινύραις, καὶ ἐν κυμβάλοις. Καὶ ἔπεσον πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ἐπὶ
πρόσωπον, καὶ προσεκύνησαν, καὶ εὐλόγησαν εἰς οὐρανὸν τὸν
εὐδώσαντα αὐτοῖς.

56 Καὶ ἐποίησαν τὸν ἐγκαινισμὸν τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου ἡμέρας
ὀκτῶ, καὶ προσήνεγκαν ὀλοκαυτώματα μετ' εὐφροσύνης, καὶ
57 ἔθυσαν θυσίαν σωτηρίου καὶ αἰνέσεως. Καὶ κατεκόσμησαν τὸ
κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ ναοῦ στεφάνοις χρυσοῖς καὶ ἀσπιδίσκαις,
καὶ ἐνεκαίνισαν τὰς πύλας καὶ τὰ παστοφόρια, καὶ ἐθύρσαν
58 αὐτά. Καὶ ἐγενήθη εὐφροσύνη μεγάλη ἐν τῷ λαῷ σφόδρα,
καὶ ἀπεστράφη ὄνειδος ἐθνῶν.

59 Καὶ ἔστησεν Ἰούδας καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ πᾶσα ἡ
ἐκκλησία Ἰσραὴλ, ἵνα ἄγωνται αἱ ἡμέραι ἐγκαινισμοῦ τοῦ

and having made his army greater than it was, he purposed to come again into Judea.

³⁶ Then said Judas and his brethren, Behold, our enemies are discomfited: let us go up to cleanse and dedicate the sanctuary. ³⁷ Upon this all the host assembled themselves together, and went up into mount Sion. ³⁸ And when they saw the sanctuary desolate, and the altar profaned, and the gates burned up, and shrubs growing in the courts as in a forest, or in one of the mountains, yea, and the priests' chambers pulled down; ³⁹ they rent their clothes, and made great lamentation, and cast ashes upon their heads, ⁴⁰ and fell down flat to the ground upon their faces, and blew an alarm with the trumpets, and cried toward heaven.

⁴¹ Then Judas appointed certain men to fight against those that were in the fortress, until he had cleansed the sanctuary. ⁴² So he chose priests of blameless conversation, such as had pleasure in the law: ⁴³ who cleansed the sanctuary, and bare out the defiled stones into an unclean place. ⁴⁴ And when as they consulted what to do with the altar of burnt offerings, which was profaned; ⁴⁵ they thought it best to pull it down, lest it should be a reproach to them, because the heathen had defiled it: wherefore they pulled it down, ⁴⁶ and laid up the stones in the mountain of the temple in a convenient place, until there should come a prophet to shew what should be done with them.

⁴⁷ Then they took whole stones according to the law, and built a new altar according to the former; ⁴⁸ and made up the sanctuary, and the things that were within the temple, and hallowed the courts. ⁴⁹ They made also new holy vessels, and into the temple they brought the candlestick, and the altar of incense, and the table.

⁵⁰ And upon the altar they burned incense, and the lamps that were upon the candlestick they lighted, that they might give light in the temple. ⁵¹ Furthermore they set the loaves upon the table, and spread out the veils, and finished all the works which they had begun to make.

⁵² Now on the five and twentieth day of the ninth month, which is called the month Casleu, in the hundred forty and eighth year, they rose up betimes in the morning, ⁵³ and offered sacrifice according to the law upon the new altar of burnt offerings, which they had made. ⁵⁴ At what time and day the heathen had profaned it, even in that was it dedicated with songs, and citherns, and harps, and cymbals. ⁵⁵ Then all the people fell upon their faces, worshipping and praising the God of heaven, who had given them good success.

⁵⁶ And so they kept the dedication of the altar eight days, and offered burnt offerings with gladness, and sacrificed the sacrifice of deliverance and praise. ⁵⁷ They decked also the forefront of the temple with crowns of gold and with shields; and the gates and the chambers they renewed, and hanged doors upon them. ⁵⁸ Thus was there very great gladness among the people, for that the reproach of the heathen was put away.

⁵⁹ Moreover Judas and his brethren with the whole congregation of Israel ordained,

that the days of the dedication of the altar should be kept in their season from year to year by the space of eight days, from the five and twentieth day of the month Casleu, with mirth and gladness. ⁶⁰At that time also they builded up the mount Sion with high walls and strong towers round about, lest the Gentiles should come and tread it down, as they had done before. ⁶¹And they set there a garrison to keep it, and fortified Bethsura to preserve it; that the people might have a defence against Idumea.

Now when the nations round about heard that the altar was built, and the sanctuary renewed as before, it displeased them very much. ²Wherefore they thought to destroy the generation of Jacob that was among them, and thereupon they began to slay and destroy the people.

³Then Judas fought against the children of Esau in Idumea at Acrabattine, because they besieged Israel: and he gave them a great overthrow, and abated their courage, and took their spoils. ⁴Also he remembered the injury of the children of Bæan, who had been a snare and an offence unto the people, in that they lay in wait for them in the ways. ⁵He shut them up therefore in the towers, and encamped against them, and destroyed them utterly, and burned the towers of that place with fire, and all that were therein.

⁶Afterward he passed over to the children of Ammon, where he found a mighty power, and much people, with Timotheus their captain. ⁷So he fought many battles with them, till at length they were discomfited before him; and he smote them. ⁸And when he had taken Jazer, with the towns belonging thereto, he returned into Judea.

⁹Then the heathen that were at Galaad assembled themselves together against the Israelites that were in their quarters, to destroy them: but they fled to the fortress of Dathema, ¹⁰and sent letters unto Judas and his brethren, saying, The heathen that are round about us are assembled together against us to destroy us: ¹¹and they are preparing to come and take the fortress wherunto we are fled, Timotheus being captain of their host.

¹²Come now therefore, and deliver us from their hands, for many of us are slain: ¹³yea, all our brethren that were in the places of Tobie are put to death: their wives and their children also they have carried away captives, and borne away their stuff; and they have destroyed there about a thousand men.

¹⁴While these letters were yet being read, behold, there came other messengers from Galilee with their clothes rent, who reported on this wise, ¹⁵saying that they of Ptolemais, and of Tyrus, and Sidon, and all Galilee of the Gentiles, were assembled together against them to consume us.

¹⁶Now when Judas and the people heard these words, there assembled a great congregation together, to consult what they should do for their brethren, that were in trouble, and assaulted of them. ¹⁷Then said Judas unto Simon his brother, Choose thee out men, and go and deliver thy brethren that are in Galilee, for I and Jonathan my brother will go into the country of

θυσιαστηρίου ἐν τοῖς καιροῖς αὐτῶν ἐνιαυτὸν κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν ἡμέρας ὀκτὼ, ἀπὸ τῆς πέμπτης καὶ εἰκάδος τοῦ μηνὸς Χασελεύ, μετ' εὐφροσύνης καὶ χαρᾶς. Καὶ ὤκοδόμησαν ἐν τῷ καιρῷ 60 ἐκείνῳ τὸ ὄρος Σιών, κυκλόθεν τείχη ὑψηλὰ καὶ πύργους ὀχυροὺς, μήποτε παραγενθέντα τὰ ἔθνη καταπατήσωσιν αὐτὰ, ὡς ἐποίησαν τοπρότερον. Καὶ ἐπέταξεν ἐκεῖ δύναμιν τηρεῖν 61 αὐτὸ, καὶ ὠχύρωσαν αὐτὸ τηρεῖν τὴν Βαιθσοῦραν, τοῦ ἔχειν τὸν λαὸν ὀχύρωμα κατὰ πρόσωπον τῆς Ἰδουμαίας.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ὅτε ἤκουσαν τὰ ἔθνη κυκλόθεν ὅτι ὤκοδομήθη 5 τὸ θυσιαστήριον, καὶ ἐνεκαίνισθη τὸ ἅγιασμα ὡς τοπρότερον, καὶ ὠργίσθησαν σφόδρα. Καὶ ἐβουλεύσαντο τοῦ ἄραι τὸ 2 γένος Ἰακώβ τοὺς ὄντας ἐν μέσῳ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἤρξαντο τοῦ θανατοῦν ἐν τῷ λαῷ καὶ ἐξαίρειν.

Καὶ ἐπολέμει Ἰούδας πρὸς τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἑσαὺ ἐν τῇ Ἰδουμαίᾳ 3 τὴν Ἀκραβατίνην, ὅτι περιεκάθητο τὸν Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτοὺς πληγὴν μεγάλην, καὶ συνέστειλεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐμνήσθη τῆς κακίας υἱῶν Βαιὰν, οἱ ἦσαν 4 τῷ λαῷ εἰς παγίδα καὶ εἰς σκάνδαλον ἐν τῷ ἐνεδρεῦν αὐτοὺς ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς. Καὶ συνεκλείσθησαν ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ἐν τοῖς 5 πύργοις, καὶ παρενέβαλεν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἀνεθεμάτισεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐνεπύρισε τοὺς πύργους αὐτῆς ἐν πυρὶ σὺν πᾶσι τοῖς ἐνοῦσι.

Καὶ διεπέρασεν ἐπὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἀμμὼν, καὶ εὔρε χεῖρα 6 κραταιὰν καὶ λαὸν πολὺν, καὶ Τιμόθεον ἡγούμενον αὐτῶν. Καὶ συνῆψε πρὸς αὐτοὺς πολέμους πολλοὺς, καὶ συνετρί- 7 βησαν πρὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτούς. Καὶ 8 προκατελάβετο τὴν Ἰαζήρ καὶ τὰς θυγατέρας αὐτῆς, καὶ ἀνέστρεψεν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν.

Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν τὰ ἔθνη τὰ ἐν τῇ Γαλααδ ἐπὶ τὸν 9 Ἰσραὴλ τοὺς ὄντας ἐπὶ τοῖς ὁρίοις αὐτῶν τοῦ ἐξᾶραι αὐτούς· καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς Δάθεμα τὸ ὀχύρωμα. Καὶ ἀπέστειλαν γράμ- 10 ματα πρὸς Ἰούδαν καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφούς αὐτοῦ, λέγοντες, ἐπισυνηγμένα ἐστὶν ἐφ' ἡμᾶς τὰ ἔθνη τὰ κύκλῳ ἡμῶν τοῦ ἐξᾶραι ἡμᾶς. Καὶ ἐτοιμάζονται ἐλθεῖν καὶ προκαταλαβεσθαι 11 τὸ ὀχύρωμα εἰς ὃ κατεφύγομεν, καὶ Τιμόθεος ἡγέται τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτῶν.

Νῦν οὖν ἐλθὼν ἐξελοῦ ἡμᾶς ἐκ χειρὸς αὐτῶν, ὅτι πέπτω- 12 κεν ἐξ ἡμῶν πλῆθος. Καὶ πάντες οἱ ἀδελφοὶ ἡμῶν οἱ ὄντες 13 ἐν τοῖς Τωβίου τεθανάτωνται, καὶ ἡχμαλωτίκασιν τὰς γυναῖκας αὐτῶν καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν καὶ τὴν ἀποσκευὴν, καὶ ἀπώλεσαν ἐκεῖ ὡς μίαν χιλιαρχίαν ἀνδρῶν.

Ἔτι αἱ ἐπιστολαὶ ἀνεγινώσκοντο, καὶ ἰδοὺ ἄγγελοι ἕτεροι 14 παρεγένοντο ἐκ τῆς Γαλιλαίας διερρήχότες τὰ ἱμάτια, ἀπαγγέλλοντες κατὰ τὰ ῥήματα ταῦτα, λέγοντες ἐπισυνήχθαι ἐπ' 15 αὐτοὺς ἐκ Πτολεμαίδος καὶ Τύρου καὶ Σιδῶνος καὶ πάσης Γαλιλαίας ἀλλοφύλων, τοῦ ἐξαναλῶσαι ἡμᾶς.

Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν Ἰούδας καὶ ὁ λαὸς τοὺς λόγους τούτους, 16 ἐπισυνήχθη ἐκκλησίᾳ μεγάλη, βουλευσασθαι τί ποιήσωσι τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς αὐτῶν τοῖς οὖσιν ἐν θλίψει, καὶ πολεμουμένοις ὑπ' αὐτῶν. Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰούδας Σίμωνι τῷ ἀδελφῷ αὐτοῦ, ἐπίλεξον 17 σεαυτῷ ἄνδρας, καὶ πορεύου καὶ ῥῦσαι τοὺς ἀδελφούς σου τοὺς ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ· ἐγὼ δὲ καὶ Ἰωνάθαν ὁ ἀδελφός μου πορευεσώ-

- 18 μεθα εἰς τὴν Γαλααδίτιν. Καὶ κατέλιπεν Ἰώσηφον τὸν τοῦ
 19 Ζαχαρίου, καὶ Ἀζαρίαν, ἡγουμένους τοῦ λαοῦ, μετὰ τῶν
 20 ἐπιλοίπων τῆς δυνάμεως, ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ εἰς τήρησιν. Καὶ
 ἐνετείλατο αὐτοῖς, λέγων, πρόστητε τοῦ λαοῦ τούτου, καὶ μὴ
 21 συνάψητε πόλεμον πρὸς τὰ ἔθνη ἕως τοῦ ἐπιστρέφαι ἡμᾶς.
 22 Καὶ ἐμερίσθησαν Σίμωνι ἄνδρες τρισχίλιοι τοῦ πορευθῆναι
 εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, Ἰούδα δὲ ἄνδρες ὀκτακισχίλιοι εἰς τὴν
 Γαλααδίτιν.
 23 Καὶ ἐπορεύθη Σίμων εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ συνῆψε πολέ-
 μους πολλοὺς πρὸς τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ συνετρίβη τὰ ἔθνη ἀπὸ
 24 προσώπου αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐδίωξεν αὐτοὺς ἕως τῆς πύλης Πτολε-
 μαίδος· καὶ ἔπεσον ἐκ τῶν ἐθνῶν εἰς τρισχιλίους ἄνδρας, καὶ
 25 ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῶν. Καὶ παρέλαβε τοὺς ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ
 καὶ ἐν Ἀρβάττοις σὺν ταῖς γυναῖξιν καὶ τοῖς τέκνοις, καὶ πάντα
 ὅσα ἦν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἤγαγεν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν μετ' εὐφροσύνης
 μεγάλης.
 26 Καὶ Ἰούδας ὁ Μακκαβαῖος καὶ Ἰωνάθαν ὁ ἀδελφὸς αὐτοῦ
 διέβησαν τὸν Ἰορδάνην, καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν ὁδὸν τριῶν ἡμερῶν
 27 ἐν τῷ ἐρήμῳ. Καὶ συνήντησαν τοῖς Ναβαταίοις, καὶ
 ἀπήντησαν αὐτοῖς εἰρηνικῶς, καὶ διηγῆσαντο αὐτοῖς ἅπαντα
 28 τὰ συμβάντα τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς αὐτῶν ἐν τῇ Γαλααδίτιδι. Καὶ
 ὅτι πολλοὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν συνελημμένοι εἰσὶν εἰς Βόσσορα, καὶ
 Βοσὸρ, ἐν Ἀλέμοις, Χασφῶρ, Μακὲδ, καὶ Καρναῖν· πᾶσαι
 29 αἱ πόλεις αὗται ὀχυραὶ καὶ μεγάλαι· καὶ ἐν ταῖς λοιπαῖς
 πόλεσι τῆς Γαλααδίτιδος εἰσι συνελημμένοι, καὶ εἰς αὐρίον
 τάσσονται παρεμβάλλειν ἐπὶ τὰ ὀχυρώματα, καὶ καταλα-
 βέσθαι, καὶ ἐξῆραι πάντας τούτους ἐν ἡμέρᾳ μιᾷ.
 30 Καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν Ἰούδας καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ ὁδὸν εἰς
 τὴν ἔρημον εἰς Βοσὸρ, ἄφνω· καὶ κατελάβετο τὴν πόλιν, καὶ
 ἀπέκτεινε πᾶν ἄρσενικὸν ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας, καὶ ἔλαβε
 31 πάντα τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐνέπρησεν αὐτὴν πυρί. Καὶ
 ἀπῆρεν ἐκεῖθεν νυκτὸς, καὶ ἐπορεύετο ἕως ἐπὶ τὸ ὀχύρωμα.
 32 Καὶ ἐγένετο ἑωθινὴ, καὶ ἦραν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῶν, καὶ
 ἰδοὺ λαὸς πολὺς οὐ οὐκ ἦν ἀριθμὸς, αἵροντες κλίμακας καὶ
 μηχανὰς καταλαβέσθαι τὸ ὀχύρωμα, καὶ ἐπολέμουν αὐτούς.
 33 Καὶ εἶδεν Ἰούδας ὅτι ἦρκεται ὁ πόλεμος, καὶ ἡ κραυγὴ τῆς
 πόλεως ἀνέβη εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν σάλπιγξιν καὶ φωνῇ μεγάλῃ.
 34 Καὶ εἶπε τοῖς ἀνδράσι τῆς δυνάμεως, πολεμήσατε σήμερον
 35 ὑπὲρ τῶν ἀδελφῶν ὑμῶν. Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐν τρισὶν ἄρχαῖς ἐξ
 ὀπισθεν αὐτῶν· καὶ ἐσάλπισαν ταῖς σάλπιγξιν, καὶ ἐβόησαν ἐν
 προσευχῇ.
 36 Καὶ ἐπέγνω ἡ παρεμβολὴ Τιμοθέου ὅτι Μακκαβαῖός ἐστι,
 καὶ ἔφυγον ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτοὺς πληγὴν
 37 μεγάλην, καὶ ἔπεσον ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ εἰς ὀκτακισ-
 χίλιους ἄνδρας.
 38 Καὶ ἀπέκλεινεν εἰς Μασφά, καὶ ἐπολέμησεν αὐτὴν, καὶ
 προκατελάβετο αὐτὴν, καὶ ἀπέκτεινε πᾶν ἄρσενικὸν αὐτῆς, καὶ
 39 ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐνέπρησεν αὐτὴν πυρί. Ἐκεῖθεν
 ἀπῆρε, καὶ προκατελάβετο τὴν Χασφῶν, Μακὲδ, Βοσὸρ, καὶ
 τὰς λοιπὰς πόλεις τῆς Γαλααδίτιδος.
 40 Μετὰ δὲ τὰ ῥήματα ταῦτα συνήγαγε Τιμόθεος παρεμβολὴν
 ἄλλην, καὶ παρενέβαλε κατὰ πρόσωπον Ῥαφῶν ἐκ πέραν τοῦ

Galaad. ¹⁸ So he left Joseph the son of Za-
 charias, and Azarias, captains of the people,
 with the remnant of the host in Judea to
 keep it. ¹⁹ Unto whom he gave command-
 ment, saying, Take ye the charge of this
 people, and see that ye make not war against
 the heathen until the time that we come
 again. ²⁰ Now unto Simon were given three
 thousand men to go into Galilee, and unto
 Judas eight thousand men for the country
 of Galaad.

²¹ Then went Simon into Galilee, where
 he fought many battles with the heathen,
 so that the heathen were discomfited by
 him. ²² And he pursued them unto the gate
 of Ptolemais; and there were slain of the
 heathen about three thousand men, whose
 spoils he took. ²³ And those that were in
 Galilee, and in Arbattis, with their wives
 and their children, and all that they had,
 took he away with him, and brought them
 into Judea with great joy.

²⁴ Judas Maccabeus also and his brother
 Jonathan went over Jordan, and travelled
 three days' journey in the wilderness, ²⁵ where
 they met with the Nabathites, who came
 unto them in a peaceable manner, and told
 them every thing that had happened to
 their brethren in the land of Galaad: ²⁶ and
 how that many of them were shut up in
 Bosora, and Bosor, and Alema, Casphor,
 Maked, and Carnaim; all these cities are
 strong and great: ²⁷ and that they were
 shut up in the rest of the cities of the
 country of Galaad, and that against to mor-
 row they had appointed to bring their host
 against the forts, and to take them, and to
 destroy them all in one day.

²⁸ Hereupon Judas and his host turned
 suddenly by the way of the wilderness unto
 Bosora; and when he had won the city, he
 slew all the males with the edge of the
 sword, and took all their spoils, and burned
 the city with fire. ²⁹ From whence he re-
 moved by night, and went till he came to
 the fortress.

³⁰ And betimes in the morning they looked
 up, and, behold, there was an innumerable
 people bearing ladders and other engines of
 war, to take the fortress: for they assaulted
 them. ³¹ When Judas therefore saw that
 the battle was begun, and that the cry of
 the city went up to heaven, with trumpets,
 and a great sound, ³² he said unto his host,
 Fight this day for your brethren. ³³ So he
 went forth behind them in three companies,
 who sounded their trumpets, and cried with
 prayer.

³⁴ Then the host of Timotheus, knowing
 that it was Maccabeus, fled from him: where-
 fore he smote them with a great slaughter;
 so that there were killed of them that day
 about eight thousand men. ³⁵ This done,
 Judas turned aside to Maspha; and after
 he had assaulted it, he took it, and slew all
 the males therein, and received the spoils
 thereof, and burnt it with fire. ³⁶ From
 thence went he, and took Casphon, Maged,
 Bosor, and the other cities of the country
 of Galaad.

³⁷ After these things gathered Timotheus
 another host, and encamped against Raphon

beyond the brook. ³⁸ So Judas sent men to espy the host, who brought him word, saying, All the heathen that be round about us are assembled unto them, even a very great host. ³⁹ He hath also hired the Arabians to help them, and they have pitched their tents beyond the brook, ready to come and fight against thee. Upon this Judas went to meet them.

⁴⁰ Then Timotheus said unto the captains of his host, When Judas and his host come near the brook, if he pass over first unto us, we shall not be able to withstand him; for he will mightily prevail against us: ⁴¹ but if he be afraid, and camp beyond the river, we shall go over unto him, and prevail against him.

⁴² Now when Judas came near the brook, he caused the scribes of the people to remain by the brook: unto whom he gave commandment, saying, Suffer no man to remain in the camp, but let all come to the battle.

⁴³ So he went first over unto them, and all the people after him: then all the heathen, being discomfited before him, cast away their weapons, and fled unto the temple that was at Carnaim. ⁴⁴ But they took the city, and burned the temple with all that were therein. Thus was Carnaim subdued, neither could they stand any longer before Judas.

⁴⁵ Then Judas gathered together all the Israelites that were in the country of Galaad, from the least unto the greatest, even their wives, and their children, and their stuff, a very great host, to the end they might come into the land of Judea. ⁴⁶ Now when they came unto Ephron (this was a great city in the way as they should go, very well fortified) they could not turn from it, either on the right hand or the left, but must needs pass through the midst of it. ⁴⁷ Then they of the city shut them out, and stopped up the gates with stones. ⁴⁸ Whereupon Judas sent unto them in peaceable manner, saying, Let us pass through your land to go into our own country, and none shall do you any hurt; we will only pass through on foot: howbeit they would not open unto him.

⁴⁹ Wherefore Judas commanded a proclamation to be made throughout the host, that every man should pitch his tent in the place where he was. ⁵⁰ So the soldiers pitched, and assaulted the city all that day and all that night, till at the length the city was delivered into his hands: ⁵¹ who then slew all the males with the edge of the sword, and rased the city, and took the spoils thereof, and passed through the city over them that were slain.

⁵² After this went they over Jordan into the great plain before Bethsan. ⁵³ And Judas gathered together those that came behind, and exhorted the people all the way through, till they came into the land of Judea. ⁵⁴ So they went up to mount Sion with joy and gladness, where they offered burnt offerings, because not one of them was slain until they had returned in peace.

⁵⁵ Now what time as Judas and Jonathan were in the land of Galaad, and Simon his brother in Galilee before Ptolemais,

χειμάρρου. Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν Ἰούδας κατασκοπεῦσαι τὴν ³⁸ παρεμβολὴν· καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν αὐτῷ, λέγοντες, ἐπισυνηγμένα εἰσὶ πρὸς αὐτοὺς πάντα τὰ ἔθνη τὰ κύκλῳ ἡμῶν, δυνάμεις πολλὴ σφόδρα. Καὶ Ἀραβας μεμίσθωται εἰς βοήθειαν ³⁹ αὐτοῖς, καὶ παρενέβαλον πέραν τοῦ χειμάρρου ἑτοιμοὶ τοῦ ἐλθεῖν ἐπὶ σὲ εἰς πόλεμον· καὶ ἐπορεύθη Ἰούδας εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτῶν.

Καὶ εἶπε Τιμόθεος τοῖς ἄρχουσι τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ, ἐν τῷ ⁴⁰ ἐγγίξειν Ἰούδαν καὶ τὴν παρεμβολὴν αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τὸν χειμάρρουν τοῦ ὕδατος, ἐὰν διαβῇ πρὸς ἡμᾶς πρότερος, οὐ δυνησόμεθα ὑποστῆναι αὐτόν, ὅτι δυνάμενος δυνήσεται πρὸς ἡμᾶς. Ἐὰν δὲ ⁴¹ δειλωθῇ, καὶ παρεμβάλῃ πέραν τοῦ ποταμοῦ, διαπεράσομεν πρὸς αὐτόν, καὶ δυνησόμεθα πρὸς αὐτόν.

Ὡς δὲ ἤγγισεν Ἰούδας ἐπὶ τὸν χειμάρρουν τοῦ ὕδατος, ⁴² ἔστησε τοὺς γραμματεῖς τοῦ λαοῦ ἐπὶ τοῦ χειμάρρου, καὶ ἐνετείλατο αὐτοῖς, λέγων, μὴ ἀφήτε πάντα ἄνθρωπον παρεμβαλεῖν, ἀλλ' ἐρχέσθωσαν πάντες εἰς τὸν πόλεμον. Καὶ ⁴³ διεπέρασεν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς πρότερος, καὶ πᾶς ὁ λαὸς ὀπισθεν αὐτοῦ· καὶ συνετρίβησαν πρὸ προσώπου αὐτοῦ πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, καὶ ἔρριψαν τὰ ὄπλα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς τὸ τέμενος ἐν Καρναῖν. Καὶ προκατελάβοντο τὴν πόλιν, καὶ τὸ τέμε- ⁴⁴ νος ἐνεπύρισαν ἐν πυρὶ σὺν πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν αὐτῷ· καὶ ἐτροπώθη ἡ Καρναῖν, καὶ οὐκ ἐδύναντο ἔτι ὑποστῆναι κατὰ πρόσωπον Ἰούδα.

Καὶ συνήγαγεν Ἰούδας πάντα Ἰσραὴλ τοὺς ἐν τῇ Γαλααδί- ⁴⁵ τιδι ἀπὸ μικροῦ ἕως μεγάλου, καὶ τὰς γυναῖκας αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν, καὶ τὴν ἀποσκευὴν, παρεμβολὴν μεγάλην σφόδρα, ἐλθεῖν εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα. Καὶ ἦλθον ἕως Ἐφρών· καὶ αὕτη ἡ ⁴⁶ πόλις μεγάλη ἐπὶ τῆς εἰσόδου ὀχυρὰ σφόδρα· οὐκ ἦν ἐκκλίνειν ἀπ' αὐτῆς δεξιὰν ἢ ἀριστεράν, ἀλλ' ἡ διὰ μέσου αὐτῆς πορεύεσθαι. Καὶ ἀπέκλεισαν αὐτοὺς οἱ ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ⁴⁷ ἐνέφραξαν τὰς πύλας λίθοις. Καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτοὺς ⁴⁸ Ἰούδας λόγοις εἰρηνικοῖς, λέγων, διελευσόμεθα διὰ τῆς γῆς σου τοῦ ἀπελθεῖν εἰς τὴν γῆν ἡμῶν, καὶ οὐδεὶς κακοποιήσει ὑμᾶς, πλην τοῖς ποσὶ παρελευσόμεθα· καὶ οὐκ ἠβούλοντο ἀνοῖξαι αὐτῷ.

Καὶ ἐπέταξεν Ἰούδας κηρύξαι ἐν τῇ παρεμβολῇ, τοῦ ⁴⁹ παρεμβαλεῖν ἕκαστον ἐν ᾧ ἐστι τόπῳ. Καὶ παρενέβαλον ⁵⁰ οἱ ἄνδρες τῆς δυνάμεως, καὶ ἐπολέμησαν τὴν πόλιν ὅλην τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην καὶ ὅλην τὴν νύκτα, καὶ παρεδόθη ἡ πόλις ἐν χερσὶν αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἀπόλεσε πᾶν ἀρσενικὸν ἐν στόματι ⁵¹ ῥομφαίας, καὶ ἐξεῖρξεν αὐτήν, καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῆς, καὶ διήλθε διὰ τῆς πόλεως ἐπάνω τῶν ἀπεκταμένων.

Καὶ διέβησαν τὸν Ἰορδάνην εἰς τὸ πεδίον τὸ μέγα κατὰ ⁵² πρόσωπον Βαιθσάν. Καὶ ἦν Ἰούδας ἐπισυνάγων τοὺς ἑσχα- ⁵³ τίζοντας, καὶ παρακαλῶν τὸν λαὸν κατὰ πᾶσαν τὴν ὁδόν, ἕως οὗ ἦλθον εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα. Καὶ ἀνέβησαν εἰς τὸ ὄρος ⁵⁴ Σιών ἐν εὐφροσύνῃ καὶ χαρᾷ· καὶ προσήγαγον ὀλοκαυτώματα, ὅτι οὐκ ἔπεσεν ἐξ αὐτῶν οὐθεὶς ἕως τοῦ ἐπιστρέφαι ἐν εἰρήνῃ.

Καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις αἷς ἦν Ἰούδας καὶ Ἰωνάθαν ἐν τῇ ⁵⁵ Γαλααδ, καὶ Σίμων ὁ ἀδελφὸς αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ κατὰ

56 πρόσωπον Πτολεμαίδος, ἤκουσεν Ἰωσήφ ὁ τοῦ Ζαχαρίου, καὶ Ἀζαρίας, ἄρχοντες τῆς δυνάμεως, τῶν ἀνδραγαθίων καὶ
 57 τοῦ πολέμου οἷα ἐποίησαν, καὶ εἶπε, ποιήσωμεν καὶ αὐτοὶ ἑαυτοῖς ὄνομα, καὶ πορευθώμεν πολεμῆσαι πρὸς τὰ ἔθνη τὰ κύκλῳ ἡμῶν.
 58 Καὶ παρήγγειλαν τοῖς ἀπὸ τῆς δυνάμεως τῆς μετ' αὐτῶν,
 59 καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν ἐπὶ Ἰάμνειαν. Καὶ ἐξῆλθε Γοργίας ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, καὶ οἱ ἄνδρες αὐτοῦ, εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτοῖς εἰς πόλεμον.
 60 Καὶ ἐτροπώθη Ἰωσήφος καὶ Ἀζαρίας, καὶ ἐδιώχθησαν ἕως τῶν ὁρίων τῆς Ἰουδαίας· καὶ ἔπεσον ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ ἐκ τοῦ
 61 λαοῦ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ εἰς δισχιλίους ἄνδρας. Καὶ ἐγενήθη τροπὴ μεγάλη ἐν τῷ λαῷ Ἰσραὴλ, ὅτι οὐκ ἤκουσαν Ἰούδα καὶ τῶν
 62 ἀδελφῶν αὐτοῦ, οἰόμενοι ἀνδραγαθῆσαι. Αὐτοὶ δὲ οὐκ ἦσαν ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος τῶν ἀνδρῶν ἐκείνων, οἷς ἐδόθη σωτηρία
 63 Ἰσραὴλ διὰ χειρὸς αὐτῶν. Καὶ ὁ ἀνὴρ Ἰούδας καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ ἐδοξάσθησαν σφόδρα ἐναντίον παντὸς Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ τῶν
 64 ἔθνῶν πάντων, οὗ ἠκούετο τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐπισυνήγοντο πρὸς αὐτοὺς εὐφημοῦντες.
 65 Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν Ἰούδας καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπολέμουν τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἡσαὺ ἐν τῇ γῇ πρὸς Νότον, καὶ ἐπάταξε τὴν
 66 αὐτῆς, καὶ τοὺς πύργους αὐτῆς ἐνέπρησε κυκλόθεν. Καὶ ἀπῆρε τοῦ πορευθῆναι εἰς γῆν ἀλλοφύλων, καὶ διεπορεύετο τὴν Σαμάρειαν.
 67 Ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ ἔπεσον ἱερεῖς ἐν πολέμῳ βουλόμενοι ἀνδραγαθῆσαι, ἐν τῷ αὐτοῖς ἐξελεῖν εἰς πόλεμον ἀβουλεύτως.
 68 Καὶ ἐξέκλινεν Ἰούδας εἰς Ἀζωτον γῆν ἀλλοφύλων, καὶ καθεῖλε τοὺς βωμοὺς αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰ γλυπτὰ τῶν θεῶν αὐτῶν κατέκαυσε πυρὶ, καὶ ἐσκόλευσε τὰ σκύλα τῶν πόλεων, καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν εἰς τὴν γῆν Ἰούδα.
 6 Καὶ ὁ βασιλεὺς Ἀντίοχος διεπορεύετο τὰς ἐνάνω χώρας, καὶ ἤκουσεν ὅτι ἐστὶν Ἐλυμαῖς ἐν τῇ Περσίδι πόλις ἐνδοξος
 2 πλούτῳ, ἀργυρίῳ τε καὶ χρυσίῳ, καὶ τὸ ἱερόν τὸ ἐν αὐτῇ πλούσιον σφόδρα, καὶ ἐκεῖ καλύμματα χρυσᾶ, καὶ θώρακες, καὶ ὅπλα ἃ κατέλιπεν ἐκεῖ Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ Φιλίππου, βασιλεὺς ὁ Μακεδῶν, ὃς ἐβασίλευσε πρῶτος ἐν τοῖς Ἑλλήσι. Καὶ
 3 ἦλθε καὶ ἐζήτηι καταλαβέσθαι τὴν πόλιν, καὶ προνομεῦσαι αὐτήν, καὶ οὐκ ἠδυνάσθη, ὅτι ἐγνώσθη ὁ λόγος τοῖς ἐκ τῆς
 4 πόλεως. Καὶ ἀνέστησαν αὐτῷ εἰς πόλεμον, καὶ ἔφυγε καὶ ἀπῆρεν ἐκεῖθεν μετὰ λύπης μεγάλης, ἀποστρέψαι εἰς Βαβυλῶνα.
 5 Καὶ ἦλθεν ἀπαγγέλλων τις αὐτῷ εἰς τὴν Περσίδα, ὅτι τετρόπωνται αἱ παρεμβολαὶ αἱ πορευθεῖσαι εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα.
 6 Καὶ ἐπορεύθη Λυσίας δυνάμει ἰσχυρᾷ ἐν πρώτοις, καὶ ἀνέτραπή ἀπὸ προσώπου αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπίσχυσαν ὅπλοις καὶ δυνάμει καὶ σκύλοις πολλοῖς οἷς ἔλαβον ἀπὸ τῶν παρεμβολῶν ὧν
 7 ἐξέκοψαν. Καὶ καθεῖλον τὸ βδέλυγμα ὃ ὠκοδόμησεν ἐπὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον τὸ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ τὸ ἅγιασμα καθὼς τὸ πρότερον ἐκύκλωσαν τείχεσιν ὑψηλοῖς, καὶ τὴν Βαιθσοῦραν πόλιν αὐτοῦ.
 8 Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἤκουσεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τοὺς λόγους τούτους, ἔθαμβήθη καὶ ἐσαλεύθη σφόδρα· καὶ ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ τὴν κοίτην,

56 Joseph the son of Zacharias, and Azarias, captains of the garrisons, heard of the valiant acts and warlike deeds which they had done.
 57 Wherefore they said, Let us also get us a name, and go fight against the heathen that are round about us.

58 So when they had given charge unto the garrison that was with them, they went toward Jamnia. 59 Then came Gorgias and his men out of the city to fight against them. 60 And so it was, that Joseph and Azarias were put to flight, and pursued unto the borders of Judea: and there were slain that day of the people of Israel about two thousand men. 61 Thus was there a great overthrow among the children of Israel, because they were not obedient unto Judas and his brethren, but thought to do some valiant act. 62 Moreover these men came not of the seed of those, by whose hand deliverance was given unto Israel. 63 Howbeit the man Judas and his brethren were greatly renowned in the sight of all Israel, and of all the heathen, whosoever their name was heard of: 64 insomuch as the people assembled unto them with joyful acclamations.

65 Afterward went Judas forth with his brethren, and fought against the children of Esau in the land toward the south, where he smote Hebron, and the towns thereof, and pulled down the fortress of it, and burned the towers thereof round about. 66 From thence he removed to go into the land of the Philistines, and passed through Samaria.

67 At that time certain priests, desirous to shew their valour, were slain in battle, for that they went out to fight unadvisedly. 68 So Judas turned to Azotus in the land of the Philistines, and when he had pulled down their altars, and burned their carved images with fire, and spoiled their cities, he returned into the land of Judea.

About that time king Antiochus travelling through the high countries heard say, that Elymais in the country of Persia was a city greatly renowned for riches, silver, and gold; and that there was in it a very rich temple, wherein were coverings of gold, and breastplates, and shields, which Alexander, son of Philip, the Macedonian king, who reigned first among the Grecians, had left there: 3 wherefore he came and sought to take the city, and to spoil it; but he was not able, because they of the city, having had warning thereof, 4 rose up against him in battle: so he fled, and departed thence with great heaviness, and returned to Babylon.

5 Moreover there came one who brought him tidings into Persia, that the armies, which went against the land of Judea, were put to flight: 6 and that Lysias, who went forth first with a great power, was driven away of the Jews; and that they were made strong by the armour, and power, and store of spoils, which they had gotten of the armies, whom they had destroyed: 7 also that they had pulled down the abomination, which he had set up upon the altar in Jerusalem, and that they had compassed about the sanctuary with high walls, as before, and his city Bethsura.

8 Now when the king heard these words, he was astonished and sore moved: whereupon he laid him down upon his bed, and

fell sick for grief, because it had not befallen him as he looked for. ⁹ And there he continued many days: for his grief was ever more and more, and he made account that he should die. ¹⁰ Wherefore he called for all his friends, and said unto them, The sleep is gone from mine eyes, and my heart faileth for very care. ¹¹ And I thought with myself, Into what tribulation am I come, and how great a flood of misery is it wherein now I am! for I was bountiful and beloved in my power. ¹² But now I remember the evils that I did at Jerusalem, and that I took all the vessels of gold and silver that were therein, and sent to destroy the inhabitants of Judea without a cause. ¹³ I perceive therefore that for this cause these troubles are come upon me, and, behold, I perish through great grief in a strange land.

¹⁴ Then called he for Philip, one of his friends, whom he made ruler over all his realm. ¹⁵ And gave him the crown, and his robe, and his signet, to the end he should bring up his son Antiochus, and nourish him up for the kingdom. ¹⁶ So king Antiochus died there in the hundred forty and ninth year. ¹⁷ Now when Lysias knew that the king was dead, he set up Antiochus his son, whom he had brought up being young, to reign in his stead, and his name he called Eupator.

¹⁸ About this time they that were in the tower shut up the Israelites round about the sanctuary, and sought always their hurt, and the strengthening of the heathen. ¹⁹ Wherefore Judas, purposing to destroy them, called all the people together to besiege them. ²⁰ So they came together, and besieged them in the hundred and fiftieth year, and he made mounts for shot against them, and other engines.

²¹ Howbeit certain of them that were besieged got forth, unto whom some ungodly men of Israel joined themselves: ²² and they went unto the king, and said, How long will it be ere thou execute judgment, and avenge our brethren? ²³ We have been willing to serve thy father, and to do as he would have us, and to obey his commandments; ²⁴ for which cause they of our nation besiege the tower, and are alienated from us: moreover as many of us as they could light on they slew, and spoiled our inheritance.

²⁵ Neither have they stretched out their hand against us only, but also against all their borders. ²⁶ And, behold, this day are they besieging the tower at Jerusalem, to take it: the sanctuary also and Bethsura have they fortified. ²⁷ Wherefore if thou dost not prevent them quickly, they will do greater things than these, neither shalt thou be able to rule them.

²⁸ Now when the king heard this, he was angry, and gathered together all his friends, and the captains of his army, and those that had charge of the horse. ²⁹ There came also unto him from other kingdoms, and from isles of the sea, bands of hired soldiers. ³⁰ So that the number of his army was an hundred thousand footmen, and twenty thousand horsemen, and two and thirty elephants exercised in battle. ³¹ These went through Idumea, and pitched against Beth-

καὶ ἐνέπεσεν εἰς ἀρρώστιαν ἀπὸ τῆς λύπης, ὅτι οὐκ ἐγένετο αὐτῷ καθὼς ἐνεθυμείτο. Καὶ ἦν ἐκεῖ ἡμέρας πλείους, ὅτι ἀνεκαινίσθη ⁹ ἐπ' αὐτὸν λύπη μεγάλη, καὶ ἐλογίσατο ὅτι ἀποθνήσκει. Καὶ ¹⁰ ἐκάλεσε πάντας τοὺς φίλους αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπε πρὸς αὐτοὺς, ἀφίσταται ὁ ὕπνος ἀπὸ τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν μου, καὶ συμπέπτωκα τῇ καρδίᾳ ἀπὸ τῆς μερίμνης. Καὶ εἶπα τῇ καρδίᾳ μου, ἕως ¹¹ τίνος θλίψεως ἦλθον καὶ κλύδωνος μεγάλου, ἐν ᾧ νῦν εἰμι; ὅτι χρηστὸς καὶ ἀγαπώμενος ἤμην ἐν τῇ ἐξουσίᾳ μου. Νῦν ¹² δὲ μιμνήσκομαι τῶν κακῶν ὧν ἐποίησα ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἔλαβον πάντα τὰ σκεύη τὰ χρυσᾶ καὶ τὰ ἀργυρᾶ τὰ ἐν αὐτῇ, καὶ ἐξαπέστειλα ἐξᾶραι τοὺς κατοικοῦντας Ἰούδα διακενήs. Ἔγνων οὖν ὅτι χάριν τούτων εἶρόν με τὰ κακὰ ταῦτα· καὶ ¹³ ἰδοὺ ἀπόλλυμαι λύπη μεγάλη ἐν γῇ ἁλλοτρίᾳ.

Καὶ ἐκάλεσε Φίλιππον ἕνα τῶν φίλων αὐτοῦ, καὶ κατέ- ¹⁴ στησεν αὐτὸν ἐπὶ πάσης τῆς βασιλείας αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἔδωκεν ¹⁵ αὐτῷ τὸ διάδημα καὶ τὴν στολὴν αὐτοῦ καὶ τὸν δακτύλιον, τοῦ ἀγαγεῖν Ἀντίοχον τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐκθρέψαι αὐτὸν τοῦ βασιλεύειν. Καὶ ἀπέθανεν ἐκεῖ Ἀντίοχος ὁ βασιλεὺς ἔτους ¹⁶ ἐννάτου καὶ τεσσαρακοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ. Καὶ ἐπέγνω ¹⁷ Λυσίας ὅτι τέθηκεν ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ κατέστησε βασιλεύειν Ἀντίοχον τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ ἀντ' αὐτοῦ, ὃν ἐξέθρεψε νεώτερον, καὶ ἐκάλεσε τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Εὐπάτορα.

Καὶ οἱ ἐκ τῆς ἄκρας ἦσαν συγκλείοντες τὸν Ἰσραὴλ κύκλῳ ¹⁸ τῶν ἀγίων, καὶ ζητοῦντες τὰ κακὰ δι' ὅλου, καὶ στήριγμα τοῖς ἔθνεσι. Καὶ ἐλογίσατο Ἰούδας ἐξᾶραι αὐτούς· καὶ ἐξεκκλησίασε ¹⁹ πάντα τὸν λαὸν τοῦ περικαθίσαι ἐπ' αὐτούς. Καὶ συνήχ- ²⁰ θησαν ἅμα, καὶ περιεκάθισαν ἐπ' αὐτούς ἔτους πεντηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ, καὶ ἐποίησεν ἐπ' αὐτούς βελοστάσεις καὶ μηχανάς.

Καὶ ἐξῆλθον ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐκ τοῦ συγκλεισμοῦ, καὶ ἐκολλή- ²¹ θησαν αὐτοῖς τινὲς τῶν ἀσεβῶν ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν ²² πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα, καὶ εἶπον, ἕως πότε οὐ ποιήσῃ κρίσιν, καὶ ἐκδικήσεις τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς ἡμῶν; Ἡμεῖς εὐδοκοῦμεν δουλεύειν ²³ τῷ πατρί σου, καὶ πορεύεσθαι τοῖς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ λεγομένοις, καὶ κατακολουθεῖν τοῖς προστάγμασιν αὐτοῦ. Καὶ περικάθηνται ²⁴ εἰς τὴν ἄκραν υἱοὶ τοῦ λαοῦ ἡμῶν, χάριν τούτου καὶ ἁλλοτριοῦνται ἀφ' ἡμῶν· πλὴν ὅσοι εὐρίσκοντο ἀφ' ἡμῶν ἐθανατοῦντο, καὶ αἱ κληρονομίαι ἡμῶν διηρπάζοντο.

Καὶ οὐκ ἐφ' ἡμᾶς μόνον ἐξέτειναν χεῖρα, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ ²⁵ πάντα τὰ ὅρια αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἰδοὺ παρεμβεβλήκασιν σήμερον ²⁶ ἐπὶ τὴν ἄκραν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, τοῦ καταλαβεῖσθαι αὐτήν, καὶ τὸ ἀγίασμα, καὶ τὴν Βαιθσοῦραν ὠχύρωσαν. Καὶ ἐὰν μὴ ²⁷ προκαταλάβῃ αὐτοὺς διατάχους, μείζονα τούτων ποιήσουσι, καὶ οὐ δυνήσῃ τοῦ κατασχεῖν αὐτῶν.

Καὶ ὠργίσθη ὁ βασιλεὺς ὅτε ἤκουσε, καὶ συνήγαγε πάντας ²⁸ τοὺς φίλους αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοὺς ἄρχοντας τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοὺς ἐπὶ τῶν ἡνίων. Καὶ ἀπὸ βασιλειῶν ἐτέρων καὶ ἀπὸ ²⁹ νήσων θαλασσῶν ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτὸν δυνάμεις μισθωταί. Καὶ ³⁰ ἦν ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν δυνάμεων αὐτοῦ ἑκατὸν χιλιάδες τῶν πεζῶν, καὶ εἴκοσι χιλιάδες ἵππων, καὶ ἐλέφαντες δύο καὶ τριάκοντα εἰδότες πόλεμον. Καὶ ἦλθον διὰ τῆς Ἰδουμαίας, καὶ παρ- ³¹ ἐνεβάλοσαν ἐπὶ Βαιθσοῦραν, καὶ ἐπολέμησαν ἡμέρας πολλὰς,

καὶ ἐποίησαν μηχανάς· καὶ ἐξῆλθον, καὶ ἐνεπύρισαν αὐτὰς ἐν πυρὶ, καὶ ἐπολέμησαν ἀνδρωδῶς.

32 Καὶ ἀπῆρεν Ἰούδας ἀπὸ τῆς ἄκρας, καὶ παρενέβαλεν εἰς
33 Βαιθζαχαρία ἀπέναντι τῆς παρεμβολῆς τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ ὄρθρισεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τοπρῶι, καὶ ἀπῆρε τὴν παρεμβολὴν ἐν ὀρμήματι αὐτῆς κατὰ τὴν ὁδὸν Βαιθζαχαρία, καὶ διεσκευάσθησαν αἱ δυνάμεις εἰς τὸν πόλεμον, καὶ ἐσάλπισαν ταῖς σάλπιγι.

34 Καὶ τοῖς ἐλέφασιν ἔδειξαν αἶμα σταφυλῆς καὶ μύρων, τοῦ
35 παραστήσαι αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸν πόλεμον. Καὶ διεῖλον τὰ θηρία εἰς τὰς φάλαγγας, καὶ παρέστησαν ἐκάστω ἐλέφαντι χιλίους ἄνδρας τεθωρακισμένους ἐν ἀλυσιδωτοῖς, καὶ περικεφαλαῖαι χαλκαὶ ἐπὶ τῶν κεφαλῶν αὐτῶν, καὶ πεντακόσιοι ἵπποι δια-
36 τεταγμένοι ἐκάστω θηρίῳ ἐκλελεγμένοι. Οὗτοι πρὸ καιροῦ, οὐδ' ἂν ἦν τὸ θηρίον, ἦσαν, καὶ οὐδ' ἂν ἐπορεύετο, ἐπορεύοντο
37 ἅμα, οὐκ ἀφίσταντο ἀπ' αὐτοῦ. Καὶ πύργοι ξύλινοι ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ὄχυροὶ σκεπαζόμενοι ἐφ' ἐκάστου θηρίου, ἐξωσμένοι ἐπ' αὐτοῦ μηχαναῖς· καὶ ἐφ' ἐκάστου ἄνδρες δυνάμειος δύο καὶ τριάκοντα οἱ πολεμοῦντες ἐπ' αὐτοῖς, καὶ ὁ Ἰνδὸς αὐτοῦ.

38 Καὶ τὴν ἐπίλοιπον ἵππον ἔθεν καὶ ἔθεν ἔστησαν ἐπὶ τὰ δύο μέρη τῆς παρεμβολῆς, κατασεύοντες καὶ καταφρασσόμενοι
39 ἐν ταῖς φάραγξιν. Ὡς δὲ ἔστιλβεν ὁ ἥλιος ἐπὶ τὰς χρυσὰς καὶ χαλκὰς ἀσπίδας, ἔστιλβε τὰ ὄρη ἀπ' αὐτῶν, καὶ κατηύγαζεν ὡς
40 λαμπάδες πυρός. Καὶ ἐξετάθη μέρος τι τῆς παρεμβολῆς τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπὶ τὰ ὑψηλὰ ὄρη, καὶ τινες ἐπὶ ταπεινά· καὶ ἤρχοντο
41 ἀσφαλῶς καὶ τεταγμένως. Καὶ ἐσαλεύοντο πάντες οἱ ἀκούοντες φωνῆς πλήθους αὐτῶν, καὶ ὁδοιπαρίας τοῦ πλήθους, καὶ συγκροσμοῦ τῶν ὅπλων· ἦν γὰρ ἡ παρεμβολὴ μεγάλη σφόδρα καὶ ἰσχυρά.

42 Καὶ ἤγγισεν Ἰούδας καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ εἰς παράταξιν· καὶ ἔπεσον ἀπὸ τῆς παρεμβολῆς τοῦ βασιλέως ἑξακόσιοι
43 ἄνδρες. Καὶ εἶδεν Ἐλεάζαρ ὁ Σαναράν ἐν τῶν θηρίων τεθωρακισμένον θώρακι βασιλικῷ, καὶ ἦν ὑπεράγον πάντα τὰ
44 θηρία, καὶ ὥφθη ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ ἔστιν ὁ βασιλεὺς. Καὶ ἔδωκεν ἑαυτὸν τοῦ σώσαι τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ περιποιῆσαι ἑαυτῷ
45 ὄνομα αἰώνιον. Καὶ ἐπέδραμεν αὐτῷ θράσει εἰς μέσον τῆς φάλαγγος, καὶ ἐθανάτου δεξιὰ καὶ εὐώνυμα καὶ ἐσχίζοντο ἀπ'
46 αὐτοῦ ἔνθα καὶ ἔνθα. Καὶ εἰσέδου ὑπὸ τὸν ἐλέφαντα, καὶ ὑπέθηκεν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀνείλεν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἔπεσεν ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν ἐπάνω
47 αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπέθανεν ἐκεῖ. Καὶ ἶδον τὴν ἰσχὺν τῆς βασιλείας καὶ τὸ ὄρμημα τῶν δυνάμεων, καὶ ἐξέκλιναν ἀπ' αὐτῶν.

48 Οἱ δὲ ἐκ τῆς παρεμβολῆς τοῦ βασιλέως ἀνέβαινον εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτῶν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ· καὶ παρενέβαλεν ὁ βασιλεὺς εἰς
49 τὴν Ἰουδαίαν καὶ εἰς τὸ ὄρος Σιών, καὶ ἐποίησεν εἰρήνην μετὰ τῶν ἐκ Βαιθσούρων· καὶ ἐξῆλθον ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, ὅτι οὐκ ἦν αὐτοῖς ἐκεῖ διατροφή τοῦ συγκεκλείσθαι ἐν αὐτῇ, ὅτι σάββατον ἦν τῇ γῇ.

50 Καὶ κατελάβετο βασιλεὺς τὴν Βαιθσούραν, καὶ ἀπέταξεν
51 ἐκεῖ φρουρὰν τηρεῖν αὐτήν, καὶ παρενέβαλεν ἐπὶ τὸ ἀγίασμα

surra, which they assaulted many days, making engines; but they of *Bethsura* came out, and burned them with fire, and fought valiantly.

³² Upon this Judas removed from the tower, and pitched in Bethzacharias, over against the king's camp. ³³ Then the king rising very early marched fiercely with his host toward Bethzacharias, where his armies made them ready to battle, and sounded the trumpets.

³⁴ And to the end they might provoke the elephants to fight, they shewed them the blood of grapes and mulberries. ³⁵ Moreover they divided the beasts among the armies, and for every elephant they appointed a thousand men, armed with coats of mail, and with helmets of brass on their heads; and beside this, for every beast were ordained five hundred horsemen of the best. ³⁶ These were ready at every occasion: wheresoever the beast was, and whithersoever the beast went, they went also, neither departed they from him. ³⁷ And upon the beasts were there strong towers of wood, which covered every one of them, and were girt fast unto them with devices: there were also upon every one two and thirty strong men, that fought upon them, beside the Indian that ruled him.

³⁸ As for the remnant of the horsemen, they set them on this side and that side at the two parts of the host, giving them signs what to do, and being harnessed all over amidst the ranks. ³⁹ Now when the sun shone upon the shields of gold and brass, the mountains glistened therewith, and shined like lamps of fire. ⁴⁰ So part of the king's army being spread upon the high mountains, and part on the valleys below, they marched on safely and in order. ⁴¹ Wherefore all that heard the noise of their multitude, and the marching of the company, and the rattling of the harness, were moved: for the army was very great and mighty.

⁴² Then Judas and his host drew near, and entered into battle, and there were slain of the king's army six hundred men. ⁴³ Eleazar also, surnamed Savaran, perceiving that one of the beasts, armed with royal harness, was higher than all the rest, and supposing that the king was upon him, ⁴⁴ put himself in jeopardy, to the end he might deliver his people, and get him a perpetual name: ⁴⁵ wherefore he ran upon him courageously through the midst of the battle, slaying on the right hand and on the left, so that they were divided from him on both sides. ⁴⁶ Which done, he crept under the elephant, and thrust him under, and slew him: whereupon the elephant fell down upon him, and there he died. ⁴⁷ Howbeit the rest of the Jews seeing the strength of the king, and the violence of his forces, turned away from them.

⁴⁸ Then the king's army went up to Jerusalem to meet them, and the king pitched his tents against Judea, and against mount Sion. ⁴⁹ But with them that were in Bethsura he made peace: for they came out of the city, because they had no victuals there to endure the siege, it being a year of rest to the land.

⁵⁰ So the king took Bethsura, and set a garrison there to keep it. ⁵¹ As for the

sanctuary, he besieged it many days: and set there artillery with engines and instruments to cast fire and stones, and pieces to cast darts and slings. ⁵² Whereupon they also made engines against their engines, and held them battle a long season. ⁵³ Yet at the last, their vessels being without victuals, (for that it was the seventh year, and they in Judea, that were delivered from the Gentiles, had eaten up the residue of the store;) ⁵⁴ there were but a few left in the sanctuary, because the famine did so prevail against them, that they were fain to disperse themselves, every man to his own place.

⁵⁵ At that time Lysias heard say, that Philip, whom Antiochus the king, whiles he lived, had appointed to bring up his son Antiochus, that he might be king, ⁵⁶ was returned out of Persia and Media, and the king's host also that went with him, and that he sought to take unto him the ruling of affairs. ⁵⁷ Wherefore he went in all haste, and said to the king and the captains of the host and the company, We decay daily, and our victuals are but small, and the place we lay siege unto is strong, and the affairs of the kingdom lie upon us: ⁵⁸ now therefore let us be friends with these men, and make peace with them, and with all their nation; ⁵⁹ and covenant with them, that they shall live after their laws, as they did before: for they are therefore displeased, and have done all these things, because we abolished their laws.

⁶⁰ So the king and the princes were content: wherefore he sent unto them to make peace; and they accepted thereof. ⁶¹ Also the king and the princes made an oath unto them: whereupon they went out of the strong hold. ⁶² Then the king entered into mount Sion: but when he saw the strength of the place, he brake his oath that he had made, and gave commandment to pull down the wall round about. ⁶³ Afterward departed he in all haste, and returned unto Antiochia, where he found Philip to be master of the city: so he fought against him, and took the city by force.

In the hundred and one and fiftieth year Demetrius the son of Seleucus departed from Rome, and came up with a few men unto a city of the sea coast, and reigned there.

² And as he entered into the palace of his ancestors, so it was, that his forces had taken Antiochus and Lysias, to bring them unto him. ³ Wherefore, when he knew it, he said, Let me not see their faces. ⁴ So his host slew them. Now when Demetrius was set upon the throne of his kingdom, ⁵ there came unto him all the wicked and ungodly men of Israel, having Alcimus, who was desirous to be high priest, for their captain: ⁶ and they accused the people to the king, saying, Judas and his brethren have slain all thy friends, and driven us out of our own land. ⁷ Now therefore send some man whom thou trustest, and let him go and see what havock he hath made among us, and in the king's land, and let him punish them with all them that aid them.

⁸ Then the king chose Bacchides, a friend of the king, who ruled beyond the river, and was a great man in the kingdom, and faithful to the king. ⁹ And him he sent

ἡμέρας πολλὰς, καὶ ἔστησεν ἐκεῖ βελοστάσεις καὶ μηχανὰς καὶ πυρόβολα καὶ λιθόβολα καὶ σκορπίδια εἰς τὸ βάλλεσθαι βέλη, καὶ σφενδόνας. Καὶ ἐποίησαν καὶ αὐτοὶ μηχανὰς πρὸς τὰς 52 μηχανὰς αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπολέμησαν ἡμέρας πολλὰς. Βρώματα 53 δὲ οὐκ ἦν ἐν τοῖς ἀγγείοις, διὰ τὸ ἔβδομον ἔτος εἶναι, καὶ οἱ ἀνασχωζόμενοι εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν ἀπὸ τῶν ἐθνῶν κατέφαγον τὸ ὑπόλειμμα τῆς παραθέσεως. Καὶ ὑπελείφθησαν ἐν τοῖς ἀγίοις 54 ἄνδρες ὀλίγοι, ὅτι κατεκράτησεν αὐτῶν ὁ λιμός· καὶ ἐσκορπίσθησαν ἕκαστος εἰς τὸν τόπον αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ ἤκουσε Λυσίας, ὅτι Φίλιππος, ὃν κατέστησεν ὁ βασιλεὺς 55 Ἀντίοχος ἔτι ζῶν, ἐκθρέψαι Ἀντίοχον τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸ βασιλεῦσαι αὐτὸν, ἀπέστρεψεν ἀπὸ τῆς Περσίδος καὶ Μηδείας, 56 καὶ αἱ δυνάμεις αἱ πορευθεῖσαι τοῦ βασιλέως μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὅτι ζητεῖ παραλαβεῖν τὰ πράγματα. Καὶ κατέσπευσε τοῦ 57 ἀπελθεῖν, καὶ εἰπεῖν πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα καὶ τοὺς ἡγεμόνας τῆς δυνάμεως καὶ τοὺς ἄνδρας, ἐκλείπομεν καθ' ἡμέραν, καὶ ἡ τροφή ἡμῖν ὀλίγη, καὶ ὁ τόπος οὐ παρεμβάλλομεν ἐστὶν ὀχυρὸς, καὶ ἐπίκειται ἡμῖν τὰ τῆς βασιλείας. Νῦν οὖν δώμεν 58 δεξιὰν τοῖς ἀνθρώποις τούτοις, καὶ ποιήσωμεν μετ' αὐτῶν εἰρήνην καὶ μετὰ παντὸς ἔθνους αὐτῶν, καὶ στησώμεν αὐτοῖς 59 τοῦ πορεύεσθαι τοῖς νομίμοις αὐτῶν, ὡς τοπρότερον· χάριν γὰρ τῶν νομίμων αὐτῶν ὧν διεσκεδάσαμεν, ὠργίσθησαν, καὶ ἐποίησαν ταῦτα πάντα.

Καὶ ἤρρεσεν ὁ λόγος ἐναντίον τοῦ βασιλέως καὶ τῶν ἀρχόν- 60 των, καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτοὺς εἰρηνεῦσαι, καὶ ἐπεδέξαντο. Καὶ ὤμοσεν αὐτοῖς ὁ βασιλεὺς καὶ οἱ ἄρχοντες· ἐπὶ τούτοις 61 ἐξήλθον ἐκ τοῦ ὀχυρώματος. Καὶ εἰσῆλθεν ὁ βασιλεὺς εἰς τὸ 62 ὄρος Σιών, καὶ εἶδε τὸ ὀχύρωμα τοῦ τόπου· καὶ ἠθέτησε τὸν ὀρκισμὸν ὃν ὤμοσε, καὶ ἐνετείλατο καθελεῖν τὸ τεῖχος κυκλόθεν. Καὶ ἀπῆρε κατὰ σπουδὴν, καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν, καὶ 63 εὔρε Φίλιππον κυριεύοντα τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ἐπολέμησε πρὸς αὐτὸν, καὶ κατελάβετο τὴν πόλιν βίᾳ.

*Ετους ἐνὸς καὶ πεντηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ ἐξῆλθε Δημή- 7 τριος ὁ τοῦ Σελεύκου ἐκ Ῥώμης, καὶ ἀνέβη σὺν ἀνδράσιν ὀλίγοις εἰς πόλιν παραθαλασσίαν, καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν ἐκεῖ.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς εἰσεπορεύετο εἰς οἶκον βασιλείας πατέρων 2 αὐτοῦ, συνέλαβον αἱ δυνάμεις τὸν Ἀντίοχον καὶ τὸν Λυσίαν ἄγειν αὐτοὺς αὐτῷ. Καὶ ἐγνώσθη αὐτῷ τὸ πρᾶγμα, καὶ εἶπε, 3 μή μοι δείξητε τὰ πρόσωπα αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἀπέκτειναν αὐτοὺς 4 αἱ δυνάμεις, καὶ ἐκάθισε Δημήτριος ἐπὶ θρόνου βασιλείας αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἦλθον πρὸς αὐτὸν πάντες ἄνδρες ἄνομοι καὶ 5 ἀσεβεῖς ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ Ἀλκιμος ἡγείτο αὐτῶν, βουλόμενος ἱερατεῦν. Καὶ κατηγορήσαν τοῦ λαοῦ πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα, 6 λέγοντες, ἀπώλεσεν Ἰούδας καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ τοὺς φίλους σου, καὶ ἡμᾶς ἐσκορπίσαν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς ἡμῶν. Νῦν οὖν 7 ἀπόστειλον ἄνδρα ὃ πιστεύεις, καὶ πορευθεὶς ιδέτω τὴν ἐξολόθρευσιν πᾶσαν ἣν ἐποίησεν ἡμῖν καὶ τῇ χώρᾳ τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ κολασάτω αὐτοὺς καὶ πάντας τοὺς ἐπιβοηθοῦντας αὐτοῖς.

Καὶ ἐπέλεξεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τὸν Βακχίδην τῶν φίλων τοῦ 8 βασιλέως, κυριεύοντα ἐν τῷ πέραν τοῦ ποταμοῦ, καὶ μέγαν ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ, καὶ πιστὸν τῷ βασιλεῖ. Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτὸν 9

- καὶ Ἀλκιμον τὸν ἀσεβῆ, καὶ ἔστησεν αὐτῷ τὴν ἱερωσύνην, καὶ ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ ποιῆσαι τὴν ἐκδίκησιν ἐν τοῖς υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ.
- 10 Καὶ ἀπῆραν, καὶ ἦλθον μετὰ δυνάμεως πολλῆς εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα· καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ἀγγέλους πρὸς Ἰούδαν, καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφούς
- 11 αὐτοῦ, λόγοις εἰρηνικοῖς μετὰ δόλου. Καὶ οὐ προσέσχον τοῖς λόγοις αὐτῶν, ἴδον γὰρ ὅτι ἦλθον μετὰ δυνάμεως πολλῆς.
- 12 Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν πρὸς Ἀλκιμον καὶ Βακχίδην συναγωγῇ γραμματέων ἐκζητῆσαι δίκαια. Καὶ πρῶτοι οἱ Ἀσιδαῖοι ἦσαν
- 14 ἐν υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἐπέζητουν παρὰ αὐτῶν εἰρήνην. Εἶπαν γὰρ, ἄνθρωπος ἱερεὺς ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος Ἀαρὼν ἦλθεν ἐν ταῖς
- 15 δυνάμεσι, καὶ οὐκ ἀδικήσει ἡμᾶς. Καὶ ἐλάλησε μετ' αὐτῶν λόγους εἰρηνικοὺς, καὶ ὤμοσεν αὐτοῖς, λέγων, οὐκ ἐκζητήσομεν
- 16 ὑμῖν κακὸν, καὶ τοῖς φίλοις ὑμῶν. Καὶ ἐνεπίστευσαν αὐτῷ· καὶ συνέλαβεν ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐξήκοντα ἄνδρας, καὶ ἀπέκτεινεν
- 17 αὐτοὺς ἐν ἡμέρᾳ μιᾷ, κατὰ τὸν λόγον ὃν ἔγραψε, σάρκας ὁσίων σου καὶ αἵματα αὐτῶν ἐξέχεαν κύκλῳ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ οὐκ ἦν
- 18 αὐτοῖς ὁ θάπτων. Καὶ ἐπέπεσεν αὐτῶν ὁ φόβος καὶ ὁ τρόμος ἐπὶ πάντα τὸν λαὸν, ὅτι εἶπαν, οὐκ ἔστιν ἐν αὐτοῖς ἀλήθεια καὶ κρίσις· παρέβησαν γὰρ τὴν στάσιν καὶ τὸν ὅρκον ὃν ὤμοσαν.
- 19 Καὶ ἀπῆρε Βακχίδης ἀπὸ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ παρενέβαλεν ἐν Βηζέθ, καὶ ἀπέστειλε καὶ συνέλαβε πολλοὺς ἀπὸ τῶν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ αὐτομολησάντων ἀνδρῶν, καὶ τινὰς τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ ἔθυσεν αὐτοὺς
- 20 εἰς τὸ φρέαρ τὸ μέγα. Καὶ κατέστησε τὴν χώραν τῷ Ἀλκίμῳ, καὶ ἀφῆκε μετ' αὐτοῦ δύναμιν τοῦ βοηθεῖν αὐτῷ· καὶ ἀπῆλθε
- 21 Βακχίδης πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα. Καὶ ἠγωνίσατο Ἀλκιμος περὶ τῆς ἀρχιερωσύνης. Καὶ συνήχθησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν πάντες οἱ ταρασσόντες τὸν λαὸν αὐτῶν, καὶ κατεκράτησαν γῆν Ἰούδα, καὶ ἐποίησαν πληγὴν μεγάλην ἐν Ἰσραὴλ.
- 23 Καὶ εἶδεν Ἰούδας πᾶσαν τὴν κακίαν ἣν ἐποίησεν Ἀλκιμος
- 24 καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐν υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ ὑπὲρ τὰ ἔθνη· καὶ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς πάντα τὰ ὄρια τῆς Ἰουδαίας κυκλόθεν, καὶ ἐποίησεν ἐκδίκησιν ἐν τοῖς ἀνδράσι τοῖς αὐτομολήσασιν, καὶ ἀνεστάλησαν τοῦ πορεύεσθαι εἰς τὴν χώραν.
- 25 Ὡς δὲ εἶδεν Ἀλκιμος ὅτι ἐνίσχυσεν Ἰούδας καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔγνω ὅτι οὐ δύναται ὑποστῆναι αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐπέστρεψε πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα, καὶ κατηγόρησεν αὐτῶν πονηρά.
- 26 Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ βασιλεὺς Νικάνορα, ἓνα τῶν ἀρχόντων αὐτοῦ τῶν ἐνδόξων, καὶ μισοῦντα καὶ ἐχθραίνοντα τῷ Ἰσραὴλ,
- 27 καὶ ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ ἐξᾶραι τὸν λαόν. Καὶ ἦλθε Νικάνωρ εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ δυνάμει πολλῇ, καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς Ἰούδαν καὶ
- 28 τοὺς ἀδελφούς αὐτοῦ μετὰ δόλου λόγοις εἰρηνικοῖς, λέγων, μὴ ἔστω μάχη ἀναμέσον ἐμοῦ καὶ ὑμῶν· ἦξω ἐν ἀνδράσιν ὀλίγοις,
- 29 ἵνα ὑμῶν ἴδω τὰ πρόσωπα μετ' εἰρήνης. Καὶ ἦλθε πρὸς Ἰούδαν, καὶ ἡσπάσαντο ἀλλήλους εἰρηνικῶς· καὶ οἱ πολέμιοι
- 30 ἦσαν ἔτοιμοι ἑξαρπάσαι τὸν Ἰούδαν. Καὶ ἐγνώσθη ὁ λόγος τῷ Ἰούδᾳ, ὅτι μετὰ δόλου ἦλθεν ἐπ' αὐτόν· καὶ ἐπτοήθη ἀπ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἐβουλήθη ἔτι ἰδεῖν τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ.
- 31 Καὶ ἔγνω Νικάνωρ ὅτι ἀπεκαλύφθη ἡ βουλὴ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς συνάντησιν τῷ Ἰούδᾳ ἐν πολέμῳ κατὰ Χαφαρσα-

with that wicked Alcimus, whom he made high priest, and commanded that he should take vengeance of the children of Israel. ¹⁰ So they departed, and came with a great power into the land of Judas, where they sent messengers to Judas and his brethren with peaceable words deceitfully. ¹¹ But they gave no heed to their words; for they saw that they were come with great power.

¹² Then did there assemble unto Alcimus and Bacchides a company of scribes, to require justice. ¹³ Now the Assideans were the first among the children of Israel that sought peace of them: ¹⁴ for said they, One that is a priest of the seed of Aaron is come with this army, and he will do us no wrong. ¹⁵ So he spake unto them peaceably, and swore unto them, saying, We will procure the harm neither of you nor your friends. ¹⁶ Whereupon they believed him: howbeit he took of them threescore men, and slew them in one day, according to the words which he wrote, ¹⁷ The flesh of thy saints have they cast out, and their blood have they shed round about Jerusalem, and there was none to bury them. ¹⁸ Wherefore the fear and dread of them fell upon all the people, who said, There is neither truth nor righteousness in them; for they have broken the covenant and oath that they made.

¹⁹ After this removed Bacchides from Jerusalem, and pitched his tents in Bezeth, where he sent and took many of the men that had forsaken him, and certain of the people also, and when he had slain them, *he cast them* into the great pit. ²⁰ Then committed he the country to Alcimus, and left with him a power to aid him: so Bacchides went to the king. ²¹ But Alcimus contended for the high priesthood. ²² And unto him resorted all such as troubled the people, who, after they had gotten the land of Judas into their power, did much hurt in Israel.

²³ Now when Judas saw all the mischief that Alcimus and his company had done among the Israelites, even above the heathen, ²⁴ he went out into all the coasts of Judea round about, and took vengeance of them that had revolted from him, so that they durst no more go forth into the country.

²⁵ On the other side, when Alcimus saw that Judas and his company had gotten the upper hand, and knew that he was not able to abide their force, he went again to the king, and said evil things against them.

²⁶ Then the king sent Nicanor, one of his honourable princes, a man that bare deadly hate unto Israel, with commandment to destroy the people. ²⁷ So Nicanor came to Jerusalem with a great force; and sent unto Judas and his brethren deceitfully with friendly words, saying, ²⁸ Let there be no battle between me and you; I will come with a few men, that I may see you in peace. ²⁹ He came therefore to Judas, and they saluted one another peaceably. Howbeit the enemies were prepared to take away Judas by violence. ³⁰ Which thing after it was known to Judas, *to wit*, that he came unto him with deceit, he was sore afraid of him, and would see his face no more.

³¹ Nicanor also, when he saw that his counsel was discovered, went out to fight

against Judas beside Capharsalama: ³² and there were slain of Nicanor's side about five thousand men, and *the rest* fled into the city of David.

³³ After this went Nicanor up to mount Sion, and there came out of the sanctuary certain of the priests and certain of the elders of the people, to salute him peaceably, and to shew him the burnt sacrifice that was offered for the king. ³⁴ But he mocked them, and laughed at them, and abused them shamefully, and spake proudly, ³⁵ and sware in his wrath, saying, Unless Judas and his host be now delivered into my hands, if ever I come again in safety, I will burn up this house: and with that he went out in a great rage.

³⁶ Then the priests entered in, and stood before the altar and the temple, weeping, and saying, ³⁷ Thou, O Lord, didst choose this house to be called by thy name, and to be a house of prayer and petition for thy people: ³⁸ be avenged of this man and his host, and let them fall by the sword: remember their blasphemies, and suffer them not to continue any longer.

³⁹ So Nicanor went out of Jerusalem, and pitched his tents in Bethhoron, where a host out of Syria met him. ⁴⁰ But Judas pitched in Adasa with three thousand men, and there he prayed, saying, ⁴¹ O Lord, when they that were sent from the king of the Assyrians blasphemed, thine angel went out, and smote an hundred fourscore and five thousand of them. ⁴² Even so destroy thou this host before us this day, that the rest may know that he hath spoken blasphemously against thy sanctuary, and judge thou him according to his wickedness.

⁴³ So the thirteenth day of the month Adar the hosts joined battle: but Nicanor's host was discomfited, and he himself was first slain in the battle.

⁴⁴ Now when Nicanor's host saw that he was slain, they cast away their weapons, and fled. ⁴⁵ Then they pursued after them a day's journey, from Adasa unto Gazera, sounding an alarm after them with their trumpets. ⁴⁶ Whereupon they came forth out of all the towns of Judea round about, and closed them in; so that they, turning back upon them that pursued them, were all slain with the sword, and not one of them was left.

⁴⁷ Afterwards they took the spoils, and the prey, and smote off Nicanor's head, and his right hand, which he stretched out so proudly, and brought them away, and hanged them up toward Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ For this cause the people rejoiced greatly, and kept that day as a day of great gladness. ⁴⁹ Moreover they ordained to keep yearly this day, being the thirteenth of Adar. ⁵⁰ Thus the land of Juda was in rest a little while.

Now Judas had heard of the fame of the Romans, that they were mighty and valiant men, and such as would lovingly accept all that joined themselves unto them, and make a league of amity with all that came unto them; ² and that they were men of great valour. It was told him also of their wars and noble acts which they had done among the Galatians, and how they had conquered them, and brought them under

λαμά. Καὶ ἔπεσον τῶν παρὰ Νικάνωρος ὥσεί πεντακισχίλιοι ³² ἄνδρες, καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς τὴν πόλιν Δαυίδ.

Καὶ μετὰ τοὺς λόγους τούτους ἀνέβη Νικάνωρ εἰς τὸ ὄρος ³³ Σιών· καὶ ἐξῆλθον ἀπὸ τῶν ἱερέων ἐκ τῶν ἀγίων καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων τοῦ λαοῦ ἀσπάσασθαι αὐτὸν εἰρηνικῶς, καὶ δεῖξαι αὐτῷ τὴν ὀλοκαύτωσιν τὴν προσφερομένην ὑπὲρ τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ ἐμυκτήρισεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ κατεγέλασεν αὐτῶν, ³⁴ καὶ ἐμίανεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐλάλησεν ὑπερηφάνως. Καὶ ὤμοσε ³⁵ μετὰ θυμοῦ, λέγων, ἐὰν μὴ παραδοθῇ Ἰούδας καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ εἰς χεῖράς μου τὸ νῦν, καὶ ἔσται ἐὰν ἐπιστρέψω ἐν εἰρήνῃ, ἐμπυρῶ τὸν οἶκον τοῦτον· καὶ ἐξῆλθε μετὰ θυμοῦ μεγάλου.

Καὶ εἰσῆλθον οἱ ἱερεῖς, καὶ ἔστησαν κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ ³⁶ θυσιαστηρίου καὶ τοῦ ναοῦ, καὶ ἔκλαυσαν, καὶ εἶπον, σὺ, Κύριε, ³⁷ ἐξελέξω τὸν οἶκον τοῦτον ἐπικληθῆναι τὸ ὄνομά σου ἐπ' αὐτῷ, εἶναι οἶκον προσευχῆς καὶ δεήσεως τῷ λαῷ σου. Ποίησον ³⁸ ἐκδίκησιν ἐν τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ τούτῳ καὶ ἐν τῇ παρεμβολῇ αὐτοῦ, καὶ πεσέτωσαν ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ· μνήσθητι τῶν δυσφημιῶν αὐτῶν, καὶ μὴ δῶς αὐτοῖς μὲν.

Καὶ ἐξῆλθε Νικάνωρ ἐξ Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ παρενέβαλεν ἐν ³⁹ Βαιθωρὼν, καὶ συνήνησεν αὐτῷ δύναμις Συρίας. Καὶ Ἰούδας ⁴⁰ παρενέβαλεν ἐν Ἀδασά ἐν τρισχίλοις ἀνδράσι· καὶ προσηύξατο Ἰούδας, καὶ εἶπεν, οἱ παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων ὅτε ἐδυσ- ⁴¹ φήμησαν, ἐξῆλθεν ὁ ἄγγελός σου, Κύριε, καὶ ἐπάταξεν ἐν αὐτοῖς ἑκατὸν ὀγδοηκονταπέντε χιλιάδας. Οὕτω σύντριψον τὴν ⁴² παρεμβολὴν ταύτην ἐνώπιον ἡμῶν σήμερον, καὶ γνώτωσαν οἱ ἐπίλοιποι, ὅτι κακῶς ἐλάλησαν ἐπὶ τὰ ἅγιά σου, καὶ κρίνον αὐτὸν κατὰ τὴν κακίαν αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ συνήψαν αἱ παρεμβολαὶ εἰς πόλεμον τῇ τρισκαίδε- ⁴³ κάτῃ τοῦ μηνὸς Ἀδαρ, καὶ συνετρίβη ἡ παρεμβολὴ Νικάνωρος, καὶ ἔπεσεν αὐτὸς πρῶτος ἐν τῷ πολέμῳ.

Ὡς δὲ εἶδεν ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ ὅτι ἔπεσε Νικάνωρ, ῥίψαντες ⁴⁴ τὰ ὅπλα αὐτῶν ἔφυγον. Καὶ κατεδίωκον αὐτοὺς ὁδὸν ἡμέρας ⁴⁵ μῖας ἀπὸ Ἀδασά ἕως τοῦ ἐλθεῖν εἰς Γάζηρα, καὶ ἐσάλπισαν ὀπίσω αὐτῶν ταῖς σάλπιγξι τῶν σημασιῶν. Καὶ ἐξῆλθον ἐκ ⁴⁶ πασῶν τῶν κωμῶν τῆς Ἰουδαίας κυκλόθεν, καὶ ὑπερεκέρων αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἀνέστρεφον οὗτοι πρὸς τούτους· καὶ ἔπεσον πάντες ῥομφαία, καὶ οὐ κατελείφθη ἐξ αὐτῶν οὐδὲ εἷς.

Καὶ ἔλαβον τὰ σκῦλα καὶ τὴν προνομὴν, καὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν ⁴⁷ Νικάνωρος ἀφείλον, καὶ τὴν δεξιὰν αὐτοῦ ἣν ἐξέτεινεν ὑπερηφάνως, καὶ ἤνεγκαν, καὶ ἐξέτειναν παρὰ τὴν Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Καὶ ⁴⁸ εὐφράνθη ὁ λαὸς σφόδρα, καὶ ἤγαγον τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην ἡμέραν εὐφροσύνης μεγάλης. Καὶ ἔστησαν τοῦ ἁγίου κατὰ ⁴⁹ ἐνιαυτὸν τὴν ἡμέραν ταύτην τὴν τρισκαίδεκάτην τοῦ Ἀδαρ. Καὶ ἠσύχασεν ἡ γῆ Ἰούδα ἡμέρας ὀλίγας. 50

Καὶ ἤκουσεν Ἰούδας τὸ ὄνομα τῶν Ῥωμαίων, ὅτι εἰσὶ δυνατοὶ ⁸ ἰσχύϊ· καὶ αὐτοὶ εὐδοκοῦσιν ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς προστιθεμένοις αὐτοῖς, καὶ ὅσοι ἂν προσέλθωσιν αὐτοῖς, ἰστώσιν αὐτοῖς φιλίαν, καὶ ὅτι εἰσὶ δυνατοὶ ἰσχύϊ· καὶ διηγῆσαντο αὐτῷ τοὺς πολέμους ² αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰς ἀνδραγαθίας αἷς ποιοῦσιν ἐν τοῖς Γαλάταις, καὶ ὅτι κατεκράτησαν αὐτῶν καὶ ἤγαγον αὐτοὺς ὑπὸ φόρον,

3 καὶ ὅσα ἐποίησαν ἐν χώρᾳ Ἰσπανίας, του κατακρατῆσαι τῶν
4 μετὰλλων τοῦ ἀργυρίου καὶ τοῦ χρυσοῦ τοῦ ἐκεῖ· καὶ κατεκρά-
τησαν τοῦ τόπου παντὸς τῇ βουλῇ αὐτῶν καὶ τῇ μακροθυμίᾳ,
καὶ ὁ τόπος ἦν μακρὰν ἀπέχων ἀπ' αὐτῶν σφόδρα· καὶ τῶν
βασιλέων τῶν ἐπελθόντων ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἀπ' ἄκρου τῆς γῆς ἕως
συνέτριψαν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐπάταξαν ἐν αὐτοῖς πληγὴν μεγάλην,
καὶ οἱ ἐπίλοιποι διδῶσιν αὐτοῖς φόρον κατ' ἐνιαυτόν·

5 Καὶ τὸν Φίλιππον καὶ τὸν Περσέα Κιτιέων βασιλέα, καὶ
τοὺς ἐπηρμένους ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, συνέτριψαν αὐτοὺς ἐν πολέμῳ, καὶ
6 κατεκράτησαν αὐτῶν· καὶ Ἀντίοχον τὸν μέγαν βασιλέα τῆς
Ἀσίας, τὸν πορευθέντα ἐπ' αὐτοὺς εἰς πόλεμον ἔχοντα ἑκατὸν
εἴκοσι ἐλέφαντας καὶ ἵππον καὶ ἄρματα καὶ δύναμιν πολλὴν
7 σφόδρα, καὶ συνετρίβη ἀπ' αὐτῶν· καὶ ἔλαβον αὐτὸν ζῶντα,
καὶ ἔστησαν αὐτοῖς διδόναι αὐτόν τε καὶ τοὺς βασιλεύοντας
8 μετ' αὐτὸν φόρον μέγαν, διδόναι ὄμνηρα καὶ διαστολὴν, καὶ
χώραν τὴν Ἰνδικήν, καὶ Μήδειαν, καὶ Λυδίαν, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν
καλλίστων χωρῶν αὐτῶν, καὶ λαβόντες αὐτὰς παρ' αὐτοῦ
ἔδωκαν αὐτὰς Εὐμένει τῷ βασιλεῖ.

9 Καὶ ὅτι οἱ ἐκ τῆς Ἑλλάδος ἐβουλευσάντο ἐλθεῖν καὶ
10 ἐξῆραι αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἐγνώσθη ὁ λόγος αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἀπέστειλαν
ἐπ' αὐτοὺς στρατηγὸν ἓνα, καὶ ἐπολέμησαν πρὸς αὐτοὺς,
καὶ ἔπεσον ἐξ αὐτῶν τραυματαῖα πολλοὶ, καὶ ἤχμαλώτευσαν
τὰς γυναῖκας αὐτῶν καὶ τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν, καὶ προενόμειναν
αὐτοὺς, καὶ κατεκράτησαν τῆς γῆς αὐτῶν, καὶ καθείλον τὰ
ὀχυρώματα αὐτῶν, καὶ κατεδουλώσαντο αὐτοὺς ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας
ταύτης.

11 Καὶ τὰς ἐπιλοίπους βασιλείας, καὶ τὰς νήσους, ὅσοι ποτὲ
12 ἀντέστησαν αὐτοῖς, κατέφθειραν, καὶ ἐδούλωσαν αὐτούς· μετὰ
δὲ τῶν φίλων αὐτῶν καὶ τῶν ἐπαναπαυομένων αὐτοῖς συνετή-
ρησαν φιλίαν, καὶ κατεκράτησαν τῶν βασιλείων τῶν ἐγγὺς καὶ
τῶν μακρὰν, καὶ ὅσοι ἤκουον τὸ ὄνομα αὐτῶν ἐφόβουντο ἀπ'
13 αὐτῶν· ὅσοις δ' ἂν βούλωνται βοηθεῖν καὶ βασιλεύειν, βασι-
λεύουσιν· οὓς δ' ἂν βούλωνται, μεθιστῶσι, καὶ ὑψώθησαν
14 σφόδρα· καὶ ἐν πᾶσι τούτοις οὐκ ἐπέθετο οὐδεὶς αὐτῶν
διάδημα, καὶ οὐ περιεβάλλοντο πορφύραν, ὥστε ἀδρυνθῆναι ἐν
15 αὐτῇ. Καὶ βουλευτήριον ἐποίησαν ἑαυτοῖς, καὶ καθ' ἡμέραν
ἐβουλευόντο τριακόσιοι καὶ εἴκοσι βουλευόμενοι διαπαντὸς περὶ
16 τοῦ πλήθους, τοῦ εὐκοσμεῖν αὐτούς· καὶ πιστεύουσιν ἐν ἁν-
θρώπῳ τὴν ἀρχὴν αὐτῶν κατ' ἐνιαυτόν, καὶ κυριεύειν πάσης τῆς
γῆς αὐτῶν, καὶ πάντες ἀκούουσι τοῦ ἐνὸς, καὶ οὐκ ἔστι φθόνος
οὐδὲ ζῆλος ἐν αὐτοῖς·

17 Καὶ ἐπέλεξεν Ἰούδας τὸν Εὐπόλεμον υἱὸν Ἰωάννου τοῦ
Ἀκκῶς, καὶ Ἰάσονα υἱὸν Ἐλεαζάρου, καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτοὺς
18 εἰς Ῥώμην, στήσαι αὐτοῖς φιλίαν καὶ συμμαχίαν, καὶ τοῦ ἄραι
τὸν ζυγὸν ἀπ' αὐτῶν, ὅτι ἵδον τὴν βασιλείαν τῶν Ἑλλήνων
καταδουλουμένους τὸν Ἰσραὴλ δουλείαν.

19 Καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν εἰς Ῥώμην, καὶ ἡ ὁδὸς πολλὴ σφόδρα, καὶ
εἰσῆλθον εἰς τὸ βουλευτήριον, καὶ ἀπεκρίθησαν καὶ εἶπον,
20 Ἰούδας ὁ Μακκαβαῖος καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ τὸ πλῆθος τῶν
Ἰουδαίων ἀπέστειλαν ἡμᾶς πρὸς ὑμᾶς, στήσαι μεθ' ὑμῶν συμ-

tribute; ³and what they had done in the country of Spain, for the winning of the mines of the silver and gold which is there; ⁴and that by their policy and patience they had conquered all the place, though it were very far from them; and the kings also that came against them from the uttermost part of the earth, till they had discomfited them, and given them a great overthrow, so that the rest did give them tribute every year:

⁵Beside this, how they had discomfited in battle Philip, and Perseus, king of the Citims, with others that lifted up themselves against them, and had overcome them: ⁶how also Antiochus the great king of Asia, that came against them in battle, having an hundred and twenty elephants, with horsemen, and chariots, and a very great army, was discomfited by them; ⁷and how they took him alive, and covenanted that he and such as reigned after him should pay a great tribute, and give hostages, and that which was agreed upon, ⁸and the country of India, and Media, and Lydia, and of the goodliest countries, which they took of him, and gave to king Eumenes.

⁹Moreover how the Grecians had determined to come and destroy them; ¹⁰and that they, having knowledge thereof, sent against them a certain captain, and fighting with them slew many of them, and carried away captives their wives and their children, and spoiled them, and took possession of their lands, and pulled down their strong holds, and brought them to be their servants unto this day.

¹¹It was told him besides, how they destroyed and brought under their dominion all other kingdoms and isles that at any time resisted them; ¹²but with their friends and such as relied upon them they kept amity: and that they had conquered kingdoms both far and nigh, insomuch as all that heard of their name were afraid of them: ¹³also that, whom they would help to a kingdom, those reign; and whom again they would, they displace: finally, that they were greatly exalted: ¹⁴yet for all this none of them wore a crown, or was clothed in purple, to be magnified thereby: ¹⁵moreover how they had made for themselves a senate house, wherein three hundred and twenty men sat in council daily, consulting alway for the people, to the end they might be well ordered: ¹⁶and that they committed their government to one man every year, who ruled over all their country, and that all were obedient to that one, and that there was neither envy nor emulation among them.

¹⁷In consideration of these things, Judas chose Eupolemus the son of John, the son of Accos, and Jason the son of Eleazar, and sent them to Rome, to make a league of amity and confederacy with them, ¹⁸and to intreat them that they would take the yoke from them; for they saw that the kingdom of the Grecians did oppress Israel with servitude.

¹⁹They went therefore to Rome, which was a very great journey, and came into the senate, where they spake and said, ²⁰Judas Maccabeus with his brethren, and the people of the Jews, have sent us unto you, to make a confederacy and peace with you, and that

we might be registered your confederates and friends. ²¹ So that matter pleased the Romans well.

²² And this is the copy of the epistle which the senate wrote back again in tables of brass, and sent to Jerusalem, that there they might have by them a memorial of peace and confederacy: ²³ Good success be to the Romans, and to the people of the Jews, by sea and by land for ever: the sword also and enemy be far from them.

²⁴ If there come first any war upon the Romans or any of their confederates throughout all their dominion, ²⁵ the people of the Jews shall help them, as the time shall be appointed, with all their heart: ²⁶ neither shall they give any thing unto them that make war upon them, or aid them with victuals, weapons, money, or ships, as it hath seemed good unto the Romans: but they shall keep their covenants without taking any thing therefore. ²⁷ In the same manner also, if war come first upon the nation of the Jews, the Romans shall help them with all their heart, according as the time shall be appointed them: ²⁸ neither shall victuals be given to them that take part against them, or weapons, or money, or ships, as it hath seemed good to the Romans; but they shall keep their covenants, and that without deceit.

²⁹ According to these articles did the Romans make a covenant with the people of the Jews. ³⁰ Howbeit if hereafter the one party or the other shall think meet to add or diminish any thing, they may do it at their pleasures, and whatsoever they shall add or take away shall be ratified.

³¹ And as touching the evils that king Demetrius doeth to the Jews, we have written unto him, saying, Wherefore hast thou made thy yoke heavy upon our friends and confederates the Jews? ³² If therefore they complain any more against thee, we will do them justice, and fight with thee by sea and by land.

Furthermore when Demetrius heard that Nicanor and his host were slain in battle, he sent Bacchides and Alcimus into the land of Judea the second time, and with them the chief strength of his host: ² who went forth by the way that leadeth to Galgala, and pitched their tents before Masaloth, which is in Arbela, and after they had won it, they slew much people. ³ Also the first month of the hundred fifty and second year they encamped before Jerusalem: ⁴ from whence they removed, and went to Berea, with twenty thousand footmen and two thousand horsemen.

⁵ Now Judas had pitched his tents at Eleasa, and three thousand chosen men with him: ⁶ who seeing the multitude of the other army to be so great, were sore afraid; whereupon many conveyed themselves out of the host, insomuch as there abode of them no more but eight hundred men.

⁷ When Judas therefore saw that his host slipt away, and that the battle pressed upon him, he was sore troubled in mind, and much distressed, for that he had no time to gather them together. ⁸ Nevertheless unto them that remained he said, Let us arise and go up against our enemies, if peradventure we may be able to fight with them. ⁹ But

μαχίαν καὶ εἰρήνην, καὶ γραφῆναι ἡμᾶς συμμάχους καὶ φίλους ὑμῶν. Καὶ ἤρρεσεν ὁ λόγος ἐνώπιον αὐτῶν. 21

Καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἀντίγραφον τῆς ἐπιστολῆς ἧς ἀντέγραψεν ἐπὶ 22 δέλτοις χαλκαῖς, καὶ ἀπέστειλεν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ εἶναι παρ' αὐτοῖς ἐκεῖ μνημόσυνον εἰρήνης καὶ συμμαχίας· καλῶς γένοιτο 23 Ῥωμαίοις καὶ τῷ ἔθνει Ἰουδαίων ἐν τῇ θαλάσῃ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς ξηρᾶς εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα, καὶ ῥομφαία καὶ ἐχθρὸς μακρυνθείη ἀπ' αὐτῶν.

Ἐὰν δὲ ἐνστῇ πόλεμος ἐν Ῥώμῃ προτέρα ἢ πᾶσι τοῖς συμ- 24 μάχοις αὐτῶν ἐν πάσῃ κυρεία αὐτῶν, συμμαχήσει τὸ ἔθνος τῶν 25 Ἰουδαίων, ὥς ἂν ὁ καιρὸς ὑπογραφῇ αὐτοῖς, καρδίᾳ πλήρει. Καὶ τοῖς πολεμοῦσιν οὐ δώσουσιν οὐδὲ ἐπαρκέσουσι σίτον, 26 ὄπλα, ἀργύριον, πλοῖα, ὥς ἔδοξε Ῥωμαίοις· καὶ φυλάσσονται τὰ φυλάγματα αὐτῶν οὐθὲν λαβόντες· κατὰ τὰ αὐτὰ δὲ ἐὰν 27 ἔθνει Ἰουδαίων συμβῇ προτέροις πόλεμος, συμμαχήσουσιν οἱ Ῥωμαῖοι ἐκ ψυχῆς, ὥς ἂν αὐτοῖς ὁ καιρὸς ὑπογραφῇ. Καὶ 28 τοῖς συμμαχοῦσιν οὐ δοθήσεται σίτος, ὄπλα, ἀργύριον, πλοῖα, ὥς ἔδοξε Ῥώμῃ· καὶ φυλάσσονται τὰ φυλάγματα αὐτῶν, καὶ οὐ μετὰ δόλου.

Κατὰ τοὺς λόγους τούτους ἔστησαν Ῥωμαῖοι τῷ δήμῳ 29 τῶν Ἰουδαίων. Ἐὰν δὲ μετὰ τοὺς λόγους τούτους βου- 30 λεύσωνται οὗτοι καὶ οὗτοι προσθεῖναι ἢ ἀφελεῖν, ποιήσονται ἐξ αἰρέσεως αὐτῶν, καὶ ὃ ἐὰν προσθῶσιν ἢ ἀφέλῳσιν, ἔσται κύρια.

Καὶ περὶ τῶν κακῶν ὧν ὁ βασιλεὺς Δημήτριος συντελεῖται 31 εἰς αὐτοὺς, ἐγράψαμεν αὐτῷ, λέγοντες, διατί ἐβάρυνας τὸν ζυγόν σου ἐπὶ τοὺς φίλους ἡμῶν τοὺς συμμάχους Ἰουδαίους; Ἐὰν οὖν ἔτι ἐντύχωσι κατὰ σοῦ, ποιήσομεν αὐτοῖς 32 τὴν κρίσιν, καὶ πολεμήσομέν σε διὰ τῆς θαλάσσης καὶ διὰ τῆς ξηρᾶς.

Καὶ ἤκουσε Δημήτριος ὅτι ἔπεσε Νικάνωρ καὶ αἱ δυνάμεις 9 αὐτοῦ ἐν πολέμῳ, καὶ προσέθετο τὸν Βακχίδην καὶ τὸν Ἀλκιμον ἐκ δευτέρου ἀποστείλαι εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα, καὶ τὸ δεξιὸν κέρας μετ' αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν ὁδὸν τὴν εἰς Γάλγαλα, καὶ 2 παρενέβαλον ἐπὶ Μαισαλῶθ τὴν ἐν Ἀρβήλοις, καὶ προκατελάβοντο αὐτήν, καὶ ἀπώλεσαν ψυχὰς ἀνθρώπων πολλὰς. Καὶ 3 τοῦ μηνὸς τοῦ πρώτου ἔτους τοῦ δευτέρου καὶ πεντηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ παρενέβαλον ἐπὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ. Καὶ ἀπῆραν 4 καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν εἰς Βερέαν ἐν εἴκοσι χιλιάσιν ἀνδρῶν καὶ δισχιλίᾳ ἵππῳ.

Καὶ Ἰούδας ἦν παρεμβεβληκὸς ἐν Ἑλεασά, καὶ τρισχίλιοι 5 ἄνδρες ἐκλεκτοὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἶδον τὸ πλῆθος τῶν δυνάμεων 6 ὅτι πολλοὶ εἰσι, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν σφόδρα· καὶ ἐξεῤῥύησαν πολλοὶ ἀπὸ τῆς παρεμβολῆς, οὐ κατελείφθησαν ἐξ αὐτῶν ἄλλ' ἢ ὀκτακόσιοι ἄνδρες.

Καὶ εἶδεν Ἰούδας ὅτι ἀπεῤῥύη ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὁ 7 πόλεμος ἔθλιβεν αὐτόν· καὶ συνετρίβη τῇ καρδίᾳ, ὅτι οὐκ εἶχε καιρὸν συναγαγεῖν αὐτούς. Καὶ ἐξελύθη, καὶ εἶπε τοῖς κατα- 8 λειφθεῖσιν, ἀναστῶμεν καὶ ἀναβῶμεν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὑπεναντίους ἡμῶν, ἐὰν ἄρα δυνώμεθα πολεμῆσαι αὐτούς. Καὶ ἀπέστρεψαν 9

αὐτὸν, λέγοντες, οὐ μὴ δυνώμεθα, ἀλλ' ἢ σώζωμεν τὰς ἑαυτῶν ψυχὰς τὸ νῦν, καὶ ἐπιστρέψωμεν μετὰ τῶν ἀδελφῶν ἡμῶν, καὶ πολεμήσωμεν πρὸς αὐτοὺς, ἡμεῖς δὲ ὀλίγοι.

10 Καὶ εἶπεν Ἰούδας, μή μοι γένοιτο ποιῆσαι τὸ πρᾶγμα τοῦτο, φυγεῖν ἀπ' αὐτῶν, καὶ εἰ ἡγγικεν ὁ καιρὸς ἡμῶν, καὶ ἀποθάνωμεν ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ χάριν τῶν ἀδελφῶν ἡμῶν, καὶ
11 μὴ καταλίπωμεν αἰτίαν τῇ δόξῃ ἡμῶν. Καὶ ἀπῆρεν ἡ δύναμις ἀπὸ τῆς παρεμβολῆς, καὶ ἔστησαν εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἐμερίσθη ἡ ἵππος εἰς δύο μέρη, καὶ οἱ σφενδονηταὶ καὶ οἱ τοξόται προεπορεύοντο τῆς δυνάμεως, καὶ οἱ πρωταγωνισταὶ πάντες οἱ δυνατοί.

12 Βακχίδης δὲ ἦν ἐν τῷ δεξιῷ κέρατι, καὶ ἡγγισεν ἡ φάλαγξ
13 ἐκ τῶν δύο μερῶν, καὶ ἐφώνουν ταῖς σάλπιγξι. Καὶ ἐσάλπισαν οἱ παρὰ Ἰούδα καὶ αὐτοὶ ταῖς σάλπιγξι, καὶ ἐσαλεύθη ἡ γῆ ἀπὸ τῆς φωνῆς τῶν παρεμβολῶν· καὶ ἐγένετο ὁ πόλεμος συνημμένος ἀπὸ πρωΐθεν ἕως ἑσπέρας.

14 Καὶ εἶδεν Ἰούδας ὅτι Βακχίδης καὶ τὸ στερῶμα τῆς παρεμβολῆς ἐν τοῖς δεξιοῖς, καὶ συνῆλθον αὐτῷ πάντες οἱ εὐψυχοὶ
15 τῇ καρδίᾳ. Καὶ συνετρίβη τὸ δεξιὸν κέρας ἀπ' αὐτῶν, καὶ
16 ἐδίωκον ὀπίσω αὐτῶν ἕως Ἀζώτου ὄρους. Καὶ οἱ εἰς τὸ ἀριστερὸν κέρας ἴδον ὅτι συνετρίβη τὸ δεξιὸν κέρας, καὶ ἐπέστρεψαν
17 κατὰ πόδας Ἰούδα καὶ τῶν μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐκ τῶν ὀπισθεν. Καὶ ἐβαρύνθη ὁ πόλεμος, καὶ ἔπεσον τραυματαῖα πολλοὶ ἐκ τούτων
18 καὶ ἐκ τούτων. Καὶ Ἰούδας ἔπεσε, καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ ἔφυγον.

19 Καὶ ἦραν Ἰωνάθαν καὶ Σίμων Ἰούδαν τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔθαψαν αὐτὸν ἐν τῷ τάφῳ τῶν πατέρων αὐτοῦ ἐν Μωδεεῖμ.
20 Καὶ ἐκλαυσαν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐκόψαντο αὐτὸν πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ κοπετὸν
21 μέγαν, καὶ ἐπένθουν ἡμέρας πολλὰς, καὶ εἶπον, πῶς ἔπεσε
22 δυνατὸς, σώζων τὸν Ἰσραὴλ; Καὶ τὰ περισσὰ τῶν λόγων Ἰούδα, καὶ τῶν πολέμων, καὶ τῶν ἀνδραγαθιῶν ὧν ἐποίησε, καὶ τῆς μεγαλωσύνης αὐτῶν, οὐ κατεγράφη, πολλὰ γὰρ ἦν σφόδρα.

23 Καὶ ἐγένετο μετὰ τὴν τελευταίην Ἰούδα, ἐξέκυψαν οἱ ἄνομοι ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς ὀρίοις Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἀνέτειλαν πάντες οἱ ἐργαζόμενοι τὴν ἀδικίαν. Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις ἐγενήθη λιμὸς μέγας σφόδρα, καὶ ἡτομόλησεν ἡ χώρα μετ' αὐτῶν.

25 Καὶ ἐξέλεξε Βακχίδης τοὺς ἀσεβεῖς ἄνδρας, καὶ κατέστησεν αὐτοὺς κυρίους τῆς χώρας. Καὶ ἐξεζήτουν καὶ ἐξηρεύνων τοὺς φίλους Ἰούδα, καὶ ἦγον αὐτοὺς πρὸς Βακχίδην· καὶ ἐξεδίδει ἐν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἐνέπαιζεν αὐτοῖς. Καὶ ἐγένετο θλίψις μεγάλη ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ, ἥτις οὐκ ἐγένετο ἀφ' ἧς ἡμέρας οὐκ ὤφθη προφήτης ἐν αὐτοῖς.

28 Καὶ ἡθροίσθησαν πάντες οἱ φίλοι Ἰούδα, καὶ εἶπον τῷ
29 Ἰωνάθαν, ἀφ' οὗ ὁ ἀδελφός σου Ἰούδας τετελεύτηκε, καὶ ἀνὴρ ὁμοιος αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔστιν ἐξελεῖν πρὸς τοὺς ἐχθροὺς καὶ Βακχίδην, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἐχθραίνουσι τοῦ ἔθνους ἡμῶν. Νῦν οὖν σε ἡρετισάμεθα σήμερον, τοῦ εἶναι ἀντ' αὐτοῦ ἡμῖν εἰς ἄρχοντα
31 καὶ ἡγούμενον, τοῦ πολεμῆσαι τὸν πόλεμον ἡμῶν. Καὶ ἐπεδέξατο Ἰωνάθαν ἐν τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ τὴν ἡγήσιν, καὶ ἀνέστη
32 ἀντὶ Ἰούδα τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἔγνω Βακχίδης, καὶ ἐζήτει αὐτὸν ἀποκτείνειν.

they dehorted him, saying, We shall never be able: let us now rather save our lives, and hereafter we will return with our brethren, and fight against them: for we are but few.

¹⁰ Then Judas said, God forbid that I should do this thing, and flee away from them: if our time be come, let us die manfully for our brethren, and let us not stain our honour. ¹¹ With that the host of Bacchides removed out of their tents, and stood over against them, their horsemen being divided into two troops, and their slingers and archers going before the host, and they that marched in the foreward were all mighty men.

¹² As for Bacchides, he was in the right wing: so the host drew near on the two parts, and sounded their trumpets. ¹³ They also of Judas' side, even they sounded their trumpets also, so that the earth shook at the noise of the armies, and the battle continued from morning till night.

¹⁴ Now when Judas perceived that Bacchides and the strength of his army were on the right side, he took with him all the hardy men, ¹⁵ who discomfited the right wing, and pursued them unto the mount Azotus. ¹⁶ But when they of the left wing saw that they of the right wing were discomfited, they followed upon Judas and those that were with him hard at the heels from behind: ¹⁷ whereupon there was a sore battle, insomuch as many were slain on both parts. ¹⁸ Judas also was killed, and the remnant fled.

¹⁹ Then Jonathan and Simon took Judas their brother, and buried him in the sepulchre of his fathers in Modin. ²⁰ Moreover they bewailed him, and all Israel made great lamentation for him, and mourned many days, saying, ²¹ How is the valiant man fallen, that delivered Israel! ²² As for the other things concerning Judas and his wars, and the noble acts which he did, and his greatness, they are not written, for they were very many.

²³ Now after the death of Judas the wicked began to put forth their heads in all the coasts of Israel, and there arose up all such as wrought iniquity. ²⁴ In those days also was there a very great famine, by reason whereof the country revolted, and went with them.

²⁵ Then Bacchides chose the wicked men, and made them lords of the country. ²⁶ And they made enquiry and search for Judas' friends, and brought them unto Bacchides, who took vengeance of them, and used them despitefully. ²⁷ So was there a great affliction in Israel, the like whereof was not since the time that a prophet was not seen among them.

²⁸ For this cause all Judas' friends came together, and said unto Jonathan, ²⁹ Since thy brother Judas died, we have no man like him to go forth against our enemies, and Bacchides, and against them of our nation that are adversaries to us. ³⁰ Now therefore we have chosen thee this day to be our prince and captain in his stead, that thou mayest fight our battles. ³¹ Upon this Jonathan took the governance upon him at that time, and rose up instead of his brother Judas. ³² But when Bacchides gat knowledge thereof, he sought for to slay him.

³³ Then Jonathan, and Simon his brother, and all that were with him, perceiving that, fled into the wilderness of Thecoe, and pitched their tents by the water of the pool Asphar. ³⁴ Which when Bacchides understood, he came near to Jordan with all his host upon the sabbath day. ³⁵ Now Jonathan had sent his brother *John*, a captain of the people, to pray his friends the Nabathites, that they might leave with them their carriage, which was much. ³⁶ But the children of Jambri came out of Medaba, and took John, and all that he had, and went their way with it.

³⁷ After this came word to Jonathan and Simon his brother, that the children of Jambri made a great marriage, and were bringing the bride from Nadabatha with a great train, as being the daughter of one of the great princes of Chanaan. ³⁸ Therefore they remembered John their brother, and went up, and hid themselves under the covert of the mountain: ³⁹ where they lifted up their eyes, and looked, and, behold, there was much ado and great carriage: and the bridegroom came forth, and his friends and brethren, to meet them with drums, and instruments of music, and many weapons.

⁴⁰ Then Jonathan and they that were with him rose up against them from the place where they lay in ambush, and made a slaughter of them in such sort, as many fell down dead, and the remnant fled into the mountain, and they took all their spoils. ⁴¹ Thus was the marriage turned into mourning, and the noise of their melody into lamentation. ⁴² So when they had avenged fully the blood of their brother, they turned again to the marsh of Jordan.

⁴³ Now when Bacchides heard hereof, he came on the sabbath day unto the banks of Jordan with a great power. ⁴⁴ Then Jonathan said to his company, Let us go up now and fight for our lives, for it standeth not with us to day, as in time past: ⁴⁵ for, behold, the battle is before us and behind us, and the water of Jordan on this side and that side, the marsh likewise and wood, neither is there place for us to turn aside. ⁴⁶ Wherefore cry ye now unto heaven, that ye may be delivered from the hand of your enemies. ⁴⁷ With that they joined battle, and Jonathan stretched forth his hand to smite Bacchides, but he turned back from him. ⁴⁸ Then Jonathan and they that were with him leapt into Jordan, and swam over unto the farther bank: howbeit the other passed not over Jordan unto them. ⁴⁹ So there were slain of Bacchides' side that day about a thousand men.

⁵⁰ Afterward returned Bacchides to Jerusalem, and repaired the strong cities in Judea; the fort in Jericho, and Emmaus, and Bethhoron, and Bethel, and Thamnatha, Pharathon, and Taphon, *these did he strengthen* with high walls, with gates, and with bars. ⁵¹ And in them he set a garrison, that they might work malice upon Israel. ⁵² He fortified also the city Bethsura, and Gazara, and the tower, and put forces in them, and provision of victuals. ⁵³ Besides, he took the chief men's sons in the country for hostages, and put them into the tower at Jerusalem to be kept.

Καὶ ἔγνω Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ Σίμων ὁ ἀδελφὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ πάντες 33 οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς τὴν ἔρημον Θεκωῆ, καὶ παρεν- 34 έβαλον ἐπὶ τὸ ὕδωρ λάκκου Ἀσφάρ. Καὶ ἔγνω Βακχίδης τῇ 35 ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων, καὶ ἦλθεν αὐτὸς καὶ πᾶν τὸ στράτευμα αὐτοῦ πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου. Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν Ἰωνάθαν τὸν 36 ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ ἡγούμενον τοῦ ὄχλου, καὶ παρεκάλεσε τοὺς Ναυαταίους φίλους αὐτοῦ παραθέσθαι αὐτοῖς τὴν ἀποσκευὴν αὐτῶν τὴν πολλήν. Καὶ ἐξῆλθον υἱοὶ Ἰαμβρί ἐκ Μηδαβὰ, 36 καὶ συνέλαβον Ἰωάννην, καὶ πάντα ὅσα εἶχε, καὶ ἀπῆλθον ἔχοντες.

Μετὰ δὲ τοὺς λόγους τούτους ἀπήγγειλαν τῷ Ἰωνάθαν 37 καὶ Σίμωνι τῷ ἀδελφῷ αὐτοῦ, ὅτι οἱ υἱοὶ Ἰαμβρί ποιοῦσι γάμον μέγαν, καὶ ἄγουσι τὴν νύμφην ἀπὸ Ναδαβὰθ, θυγατέρα ἑνὸς τῶν μεγιστάνων μεγάλων τῶν Χαναάν, μετὰ παραπομπῆς μεγάλης. Καὶ ἐμνήσθησαν Ἰωάννου τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ αὐτῶν, καὶ 38 ἀνέβησαν, καὶ ἐκρύβησαν ὑπὸ τὴν σκέπην τοῦ ὄρους. Καὶ 39 ἦσαν τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτῶν, καὶ ἶδον, καὶ ἰδοὺ θροῦς, καὶ ἀποσκευὴ πολλή, καὶ ὁ νυμφίος ἐξῆλθε καὶ οἱ φίλοι αὐτοῦ καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτῶν μετὰ τυμπάνων, καὶ μουσικῶν, καὶ ὄπλων πολλῶν.

Καὶ ἐξανέστησαν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ τοῦ ἐνέδρου οἱ περὶ τὸν 40 Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ ἀπέκτειναν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἔπεσον τραυματαῖα πολλοὶ, καὶ οἱ ἐπίλοιποι ἔφυγον εἰς τὸ ὄρος· καὶ ἔλαβον πάντα τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῶν. Καὶ μετεστράφη ὁ γάμος εἰς πένθος, καὶ 41 ἡ φωνὴ μουσικῶν αὐτῶν εἰς θρήνον. Καὶ ἐξέδίκησαν τὴν 42 ἐκδίκησιν αἵματος ἀδελφοῦ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἀπέστρεψαν εἰς τὸ ἔλος τοῦ Ἰορδάνου.

Καὶ ἤκουσε Βακχίδης, καὶ ἦλθε τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῶν σαββάτων 43 ἕως τῶν κρηπίδων τοῦ Ἰορδάνου ἐν δυνάμει πολλῇ. Καὶ εἶπεν 44 Ἰωνάθαν τοῖς παρ' αὐτοῦ, ἀναστῶμεν νῦν καὶ πολεμήσωμεν ὑπὲρ τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν, οὐ γὰρ ἔστι σήμερον ὡς ἐχθές καὶ 45 τρίτην ἡμέραν. Ἴδου γὰρ ὁ πόλεμος ἐξεναντίας ἡμῶν καὶ 46 ἐξόπισθεν ἡμῶν· τὸ δὲ ὕδωρ τοῦ Ἰορδάνου ἔνθεν καὶ ἔνθεν, καὶ ἔλος καὶ δρυμὸς, οὐκ ἔστι τόπος τοῦ ἐκκλίνειν. Νῦν 46 οὖν κεκράξατε εἰς οὐρανὸν, ὅπως διασωθῆτε ἐκ χειρὸς ἐχθρῶν ὑμῶν. Καὶ συνῆψεν ὁ πόλεμος· καὶ ἐξέτεινεν Ἰωνάθαν τὴν 47 χεῖρα αὐτοῦ πατάξαι τὸν Βακχίδην, καὶ ἐξέκλινεν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ εἰς τὰ ὀπίσω. Καὶ ἐνεπήδησεν Ἰωνάθαν καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν 48 Ἰορδάνην, καὶ διεκολύμβησαν εἰς τὸ πέραν· καὶ οὐ διέβησαν ἐπ' αὐτοὺς τὸν Ἰορδάνην. Καὶ διέπεσον παρὰ Βακχίδου τῇ 49 ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ εἰς χιλίους ἄνδρας.

Καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ὑποδόμησε πόλεις 50 ὀχυράς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, τὸ ὀχύρωμα τὸ ἐν Ἱεριχῷ, καὶ τὴν Ἐμμαοῦν, καὶ τὴν Βαιθωρῶν, καὶ τὴν Βαιθῆλ, καὶ τὴν Θαμναθὰ, Φαραθωνί, καὶ τὴν Τεφὼν ἐν τείχεσιν ὑψηλοῖς καὶ πύλαις καὶ μοχλοῖς. Καὶ ἔθετο φρουρὰν ἐν αὐτοῖς τοῦ ἐχθραίνειν τῷ 51 Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ ὠχύρωσε τὴν πόλιν τὴν ἐν Βαιθσοῦρα, καὶ τὴν 52 Γάζαρα, καὶ τὴν ἄκραν, καὶ ἔθετο ἐν αὐταῖς δυνάμεις καὶ παραθέσεις βρωμάτων. Καὶ ἔλαβε τοὺς υἱοὺς τῶν ἡγουμένων τῆς 53 χώρας ὁμηρα, καὶ ἔθετο αὐτοὺς ἐν τῇ ἄκρᾳ ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἐν φυλακῇ.

54 Καὶ ἐν ἔτει τρίτῳ καὶ πεντηκοστῷ καὶ ἑκατοστῷ, μηνὶ τῷ
 δευτέρῳ, ἐπέταξεν Ἀλκιμος καθαιρεῖν τὸ τεῖχος τῆς αὐλῆς τῶν
 55 ἁγίων τῆς ἐσωτέρας, καὶ καθεῖλε τὰ ἔργα τῶν προφητῶν, καὶ
 ἐνήρξατο τοῦ καθαιρεῖν. Ἐν τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ ἐπλήγη Ἀλ-
 κimos, καὶ ἐνεποδίσθη τὰ ἔργα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπεφράγη τὸ στόμα
 αὐτοῦ, καὶ παρελύθη, καὶ οὐκ ἐδύνατο ἔτι λαλῆσαι λόγον καὶ
 56 ἐντείλασθαι περὶ τοῦ οἴκου αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἀπέθανεν Ἀλκιμος ἐν
 τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ μετὰ βασάνου μεγάλης.

57 Καὶ εἶδε Βακχίδης ὅτι ἀπέθανεν Ἀλκιμος, καὶ ἀπέστρεψε
 58 πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα· καὶ ἡσύχασεν ἡ γῇ Ἰουδα ἔτη δύο. Καὶ
 ἐβουλεύσαντο πάντες οἱ ἄνομοι, λέγοντες, ἰδοὺ Ἰωνάθαν καὶ οἱ
 παρ' αὐτοῦ ἐν ἡσυχίᾳ κατοικοῦσι πεποιοῦτες· νῦν οὖν ἄξομεν
 τὸν Βακχίδην, καὶ συλλήψεται αὐτοὺς πάντας ἐν νυκτὶ μιᾷ.
 59,60 Καὶ πορευθέντες συνεβουλεύσαντο αὐτῷ. Καὶ ἀπῆρε τοῦ
 ἐλθεῖν μετὰ δυνάμεως πολλῆς, καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ἐπιστολάς λάθρα
 πᾶσι τοῖς συμμάχοις αὐτοῦ τοῖς ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, ὅπως συλλά-
 βωσι τὸν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ τοὺς μετ' αὐτοῦ· καὶ οὐκ ἐδύναντο, ὅτι
 61 ἐγνώσθη αὐτοῖς ἡ βουλὴ αὐτῶν. Καὶ συνελάβοντο ἀπὸ τῶν
 ἀνδρῶν τῆς χώρας τῶν ἀρχηγῶν τῆς κακίας εἰς πεντήκοντα
 ἄνδρας, καὶ ἀπέκτειναν αὐτούς.

62 Καὶ ἐξεχώρησεν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ Σίμων, καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ εἰς
 Βαιθβασὶ τὴν ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ, καὶ ὠκοδόμησε τὰ καθηρημένα
 63 αὐτῆς, καὶ ἐστερέωσαν αὐτήν. Καὶ ἔγνω Βακχίδης, καὶ
 συνήγαγε πᾶν τὸ πλῆθος αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ τῆς Ἰουδαίας
 παρήγγειλε.

64 Καὶ ἐλθὼν παρενέβαλεν ἐπὶ Βαιθβασί, καὶ ἐπολέμησεν
 65 αὐτὴν ἡμέρας πολλὰς, καὶ ἐποίησε μηχανάς. Καὶ ἀπέλιπεν
 Ἰωνάθαν Σίμωνα τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ ἐν τῇ πόλει, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν
 66 εἰς τὴν χώραν, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν ἐν ἀριθμῷ. Καὶ ἐπάταξεν Ὀδοαρ-
 ρὴν, καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφούς αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοὺς υἱούς Φασιρῶν ἐν τῷ
 67 σκηνώματι αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐξήρξατο τύπτειν, καὶ ἀναβαίνειν ἐν
 δυνάμεσιν· καὶ Σίμων, καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐξῆλθον ἐκ τῆς πόλεως,
 68 καὶ ἐνεπύρισαν τὰς μηχανάς. Καὶ ἐπολέμησαν πρὸς τὸν Βακ-
 χίδην, καὶ συνετρίβη ὑπ' αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔθλιβον αὐτὸν σφόδρα,
 69 ὅτι ἦν ἡ βουλὴ αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡ ἐφοδος αὐτοῦ κενή. Καὶ ὠργίσθη
 θυμῷ τοῖς ἀνδράσι τοῖς ἀνόμοις τοῖς συμβουλευσασιν αὐτῷ
 ἐλθεῖν εἰς τὴν χώραν, καὶ ἀπέκτειναν ἐξ αὐτῶν πολλοὺς, καὶ
 ἐβουλεύσατο τοῦ ἀπελθεῖν εἰς τὴν γῆν αὐτοῦ.

70 Καὶ ἐπέγνω Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτὸν πρέσβεις,
 τοῦ συνθέσθαι πρὸς αὐτὸν εἰρήνην, καὶ ἀποδοῦναι αὐτοῖς τὴν
 71 αἰχμαλωσίαν. Καὶ ἀπεδέξατο, καὶ ἐποίησε κατὰ τοὺς λόγους
 αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὤμοσεν αὐτῷ μὴ ἐκζητῆσαι αὐτῷ κακὸν πάσας τὰς
 72 ἡμέρας τῆς ζωῆς αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἀπέδωκεν αὐτῷ τὴν αἰχμαλωσίαν
 ἣν ἡχμαλώτευσεν τοπρότερον ἐκ γῆς Ἰουδα· καὶ ἀποστρέψας
 ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὴν γῆν αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐ προσέθετο ἔτι ἐλθεῖν εἰς τὰ
 73 ὄρια αὐτῶν. Καὶ κατέπανσε ῥομφαία ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ· καὶ ὤκησεν
 Ἰωνάθαν ἐν Μαχμάς· καὶ ἤρξατο Ἰωνάθαν κρίνειν τὸν λαὸν,
 καὶ ἠφάνισε τοὺς ἀσεβεῖς ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ.

10 Καὶ ἐν ἔτει ἐξηκοστῷ καὶ ἑκατοστῷ ἀνέβη Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ
 τοῦ Ἀντιόχου ὁ Ἐπιφανῆς, καὶ κατελάβετο Πτολεμαῖδα, καὶ

⁵⁴ Moreover in the hundred fifty and third year, in the second month, Alcimus commanded that the wall of the inner court of the sanctuary should be pulled down; he pulled down also the works of the prophets. ⁵⁵ And as he began to pull down, even at that time was Alcimus plagued, and his enterprizes hindered: for his mouth was stopped, and he was taken with a palsy, so that he could no more speak any thing, nor give order concerning his house. ⁵⁶ So Alcimus died at that time with great torment.

⁵⁷ Now when Bacchides saw that Alcimus was dead, he returned to the king: whereupon the land of Juda was in rest two years. ⁵⁸ Then all the ungodly men held a council, saying, Behold, Jonathan and his company are at ease, and dwell without care: now therefore we will bring Bacchides hither, who shall take them all in one night. ⁵⁹ So they went and consulted with him. ⁶⁰ Then removed he, and came with a great host, and sent letters privily to his adherents in Judea, that they should take Jonathan and those that were with him: howbeit they could not, because their counsel was known unto them. ⁶¹ Wherefore they took of the men of the country, that were authors of that mischief, about fifty persons, and slew them.

⁶² Afterward Jonathan, and Simon, and they that were with him, got them away to Bethbasi, which is in the wilderness, and they repaired the decays thereof, and made it strong. ⁶³ Which thing when Bacchides knew, he gathered together all his host, and sent word to them that were of Judea.

⁶⁴ Then went he and laid siege against Bethbasi; and they fought against it a long season, and made engines of war. ⁶⁵ But Jonathan left his brother Simon in the city, and went forth himself into the country, and with a certain number went he forth. ⁶⁶ And he smote Odonarres and his brethren, and the children of Phasiron in their tent. ⁶⁷ And when he began to smite them, and came up with his forces, Simon and his company went out of the city, and burned up the engines of war, ⁶⁸ and fought against Bacchides, who was discomfited by them, and they afflicted him sore: for his counsel and travail was in vain. ⁶⁹ Wherefore he was very wroth at the wicked men that gave him counsel to come into the country, inasmuch as he slew many of them, and purposed to return into his own country.

⁷⁰ Whereof when Jonathan had knowledge, he sent ambassadours unto him, to the end he should make peace with him, and deliver them the prisoners. ⁷¹ Which thing he accepted, and did according to his demands, and swore unto him that he would never do him harm all the days of his life. ⁷² When therefore he had restored unto him the prisoners that he had taken aforetime out of the land of Judea, he returned and went his way into his own land, neither came he any more into their borders. ⁷³ Thus the sword ceased from Israel: but Jonathan dwelt at Machmas, and began to govern the people; and he destroyed the ungodly men out of Israel.

In the hundred and sixtieth year Alexander, the son of Antiochus surnamed Epiphanes, went up and took Ptolemais:

for the people had received him, by means whereof he reigned there. ² Now when king Demetrius heard thereof, he gathered together an exceeding great host, and went forth against him to fight. ³ Moreover Demetrius sent letters unto Jonathan with loving words, so as he magnified him. ⁴ For said he, Let us first make peace with him, before he join with Alexander against us: ⁵ else he will remember all the evils that we have done against him, and against his brethren and his people. ⁶ Wherefore he gave him authority to gather together an host, and to provide weapons, that he might aid him in battle: he commanded also that the hostages that were in the tower should be delivered him.

⁷ Then came Jonathan to Jerusalem, and read the letters in the audience of all the people; and of them that were in the tower: ⁸ who were sore afraid, when they heard that the king had given him authority to gather together an host. ⁹ Whereupon they of the tower delivered their hostages unto Jonathan, and he delivered them unto their parents.

¹⁰ This done, Jonathan settled himself in Jerusalem, and began to build and repair the city. ¹¹ And he commanded the workmen to build the walls and the mount Sion round about with square stones for fortification; and they did so.

¹² Then the strangers, that were in the fortresses which Bacchides had built, fled away; ¹³ insomuch as every man left his place, and went into his own country. ¹⁴ Only at Bethsura certain of those that had forsaken the law and the commandments remained still: for it was their place of refuge.

¹⁵ Now when king Alexander had heard what promises Demetrius had sent unto Jonathan: when also it was told him of the battles and noble acts which he and his brethren had done, and of the pains that they had endured, ¹⁶ he said, Shall we find such another man? now therefore we will make him our friend and confederate.

¹⁷ Upon this he wrote a letter, and sent it unto him, according to these words, saying, ¹⁸ King Alexander to his brother Jonathan sendeth greeting: ¹⁹ We have heard of thee, that thou art a man of great power, and meet to be our friend. ²⁰ Wherefore now this day we ordain thee to be the high priest of thy nation, and to be called the king's friend; (and therewithal he sent him a purple robe and a crown of gold :) and require thee to take our part, and keep friendship with us. ²¹ So in the seventh month of the hundred and sixtieth year, at the feast of the tabernacles, Jonathan put on the holy robe, and gathered together forces, and provided much armour.

²² Whereof when Demetrius heard, he was very sorry, and said, ²³ What have we done, that Alexander hath prevented us in making amity with the Jews to strengthen himself? ²⁴ I also will write unto them words of encouragement, and promise them dignities and gifts, that I may have their aid. ²⁵ He sent unto them therefore to this effect: King Demetrius unto the people of the Jews sendeth greeting: ²⁶ Whereas ye have kept covenants with us, and continued in our friendship, not joining yourselves with our

ἐπεδέξαντο αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν ἐκεῖ. Καὶ ἤκουσε Δημήτριος ² ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ συνήγαγε δυνάμεις πολλὰς σφόδρα, καὶ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτῷ εἰς πόλεμον. Καὶ ἀπέστειλε ³ Δημήτριος πρὸς Ἰωνάθαν ἐπιστολὰς λόγοις εἰρηνικοῖς ὥστε μεγαλύναι αὐτόν. Εἶπε γὰρ, προφθάσωμεν τοῦ εἰρήνην θεῖναι ⁴ μετ' αὐτοῦ, πρὶν θεῖναι αὐτὸν μετὰ Ἀλεξάνδρου καθ' ἡμῶν. Μνησθήσεται γὰρ πάντων τῶν κακῶν ὧν συνετελέσαμεν πρὸς ⁵ αὐτόν, καὶ εἰς τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἰς τὸ ἔθνος αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν συναγαγεῖν δυνάμεις, καὶ κατασκευά- ⁶ ζειν ὅπλα, καὶ εἶναι αὐτὸν σύμμαχον αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὰ ὅμηρα τὰ ἐν τῇ ἄκρᾳ εἶπε παραδοῦναι αὐτῷ.

Καὶ ἦλθεν Ἰωνάθαν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἀνέγνω τὰς ἐπιστο- ⁷ λὰς εἰς τὰ ῥα παντὸς τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ τῶν ἐκ τῆς ἄκρας. Καὶ ⁸ ἐφοβήθησα φόβον μέγαν ὅτε ἤκουσαν ὅτι ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐξουσίαν συναγαγεῖν δυνάμεις. Καὶ παρέδωκαν οἱ ἐκ τῆς ⁹ ἄκρας Ἰωνάθαν τὰ ὅμηρα, καὶ ἀπέδωκεν αὐτοὺς τοῖς γονεῦσιν αὐτῶν.

Καὶ ᾤκησεν Ἰωνάθαν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἤρξατο οἰκοδομεῖν ¹⁰ καὶ καινίζειν τὴν πόλιν. Καὶ εἶπε πρὸς τοὺς ποιοῦντας τὰ ¹¹ ἔργα, οἰκοδομεῖν τὰ τεῖχη, καὶ τὸ ὄρος Σιών κυκλόθεν ἐκ λίθων τετραγώνων εἰς ὀχύρωσιν· καὶ ἐποίησαν οὕτως.

Καὶ ἔφυγον οἱ ἀλλογενεῖς οἱ ὄντες ἐν τοῖς ὀχυρώμασιν οἷς ¹² ᾤκοδόμησε Βακχίδης. Καὶ κατέλιπεν ἕκαστος τὸν τόπον αὐ- ¹³ τοῦ, καὶ ἀπῆλθεν εἰς τὴν γῆν αὐτοῦ. Πλὴν ἐν Βαιθουσούρα ¹⁴ ὑπελείφθησαν τινες τῶν καταλιπόντων τὸν νόμον καὶ τὰ προστάγματα, ἣν γὰρ αὐτοῖς φυγαδευτήριον.

Καὶ ἤκουσεν Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ βασιλεὺς τὰς ἐπαγγελίας ὅσας ¹⁵ ἀπέστειλε Δημήτριος τῷ Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ διηγήσαντο αὐτῷ τοὺς πολέμους καὶ τὰς ἀνδραγαθίας ἃς ἐποίησεν αὐτὸς καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ τοὺς κόπους οὓς ἔσχον, καὶ εἶπε, μὴ εὐρή- ¹⁶ σομεν ἄνδρα τοιοῦτον ἑνα; καὶ νῦν ποιήσομεν αὐτὸν φίλον, καὶ σύμμαχον ἡμῶν.

Καὶ ἔγραψεν ἐπιστολὰς, καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτῷ κατὰ τοὺς ¹⁷ λόγους τούτους, λέγων, βασιλεὺς Ἀλέξανδρος τῷ ἀδελφῷ ¹⁸ Ἰωνάθαν χαίρειν. Ἀκηκόαμεν περὶ σοῦ, ὅτι ἀνὴρ δυνατὸς ¹⁹ ἰσχύϊ, καὶ ἐπιτήδειος εἶ τοῦ εἶναι ἡμῖν φίλος. Καὶ νῦν καθεσ- ²⁰ τάκαμέν σε σήμερον ἀρχιερέα τοῦ ἔθνους σου, καὶ φίλον βασιλέως καλεῖσθαι· καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτῷ πορφύραν καὶ στέφανον χρυσοῦν· καὶ φρονεῖν τὰ ἡμῶν, καὶ συντηρεῖν φιλίαν πρὸς ἡμᾶς. Καὶ ἐνεδύσατο Ἰωνάθαν τὴν ἀγίαν στολὴν ²¹ τῷ ἑβδόμῳ μηνὶ ἔτους ἑξηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ ἐν ἑορτῇ σκηνοπηγίας, καὶ συνήγαγε δυνάμεις, καὶ κατεσκεύασεν ὅπλα πολλά.

Καὶ ἤκουσε Δημήτριος τοὺς λόγους τούτους, καὶ ἐλυπήθη, ²² καὶ εἶπε, τί τοῦτο ἐποιήσαμεν, ὅτι προέφθακεν ἡμᾶς ὁ ²³ Ἀλέξανδρος τοῦ φιλίαν καταθέσθαι τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις εἰς στήριγμα; Γράψω αὐτοῖς κἀγὼ λόγους παρακλήσεως, καὶ ὑψους, ²⁴ καὶ δομάτων, ὅπως ᾧσι σὺν ἐμοὶ εἰς βοήθειαν. Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ²⁵ αὐτοῖς κατὰ τοὺς λόγους τούτους· βασιλεὺς Δημήτριος τῷ ἔθνει τῶν Ἰουδαίων χαίρειν. Ἐπεὶ συνετηρήσατε τὰς πρὸς ἡμᾶς ²⁶ συνθήκας, καὶ ἐνεμεῖνατε τῇ φιλίᾳ ἡμῶν, καὶ οὐ προσεχωρήσατε

- 27 τοῖς ἐχθροῖς ἡμῶν, ἠκούσαμεν, καὶ ἐχάρημεν. Καὶ νῦν
ἐμμένετε ἔτι τοῦ συντηρῆσαι πρὸς ἡμᾶς πίστιν, καὶ ἀντ-
28 αποδώσομεν ὑμῖν ἀγαθὰ, ἀνθ' ὧν ποιεῖτε μεθ' ἡμῶν. Καὶ
ἀφήσομεν ὑμῖν ἀφέματα πολλὰ, καὶ δώσομεν ὑμῖν δόματα.
- 29 Καὶ νῦν ἀπολύω ὑμᾶς, καὶ ἀφίημι πάντας τοὺς Ἰουδαίους
ἀπὸ τῶν φόρων, καὶ τῆς τιμῆς τοῦ ἀλὸς, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν στε-
30 φάνων, καὶ ἀντὶ τοῦ τρίτου τῆς σπορᾶς, καὶ ἀντὶ τοῦ ἡμίσους
τοῦ καρποῦ τοῦ ξυλίνου τοῦ ἐπιβάλλοντός μοι λαβεῖν ἀφίημι
ἀπὸ τῆς σήμερον καὶ ἐπέκεινα τοῦ λαβεῖν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς Ἰούδα,
καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν τριῶν νομῶν τῶν προστιθεμένων αὐτῇ ἀπὸ τῆς
Σαμαρείτιδος καὶ Γαλιλαίας, καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς σήμερον ἡμέρας καὶ
εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα χρόνον.
- 31 Καὶ Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἦτω ἁγία καὶ ἀφειμένη, καὶ τὰ ὅρια
32 αὐτῆς, αἱ δεκάται καὶ τὰ τέλη. Ἀφίημι καὶ τὴν ἐξουσίαν
τῆς ἄκρας τῆς ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ δίδωμι τῷ ἀρχιερεῖ, ὅπως
ἂν καταστήσῃ ἐν αὐτῇ ἄνδρας οὓς ἂν ἐκλέξηται αὐτὸς τοῦ
φυλάσσειν αὐτήν.
- 33 Καὶ πᾶσαν φυχὴν Ἰουδαίων τὴν αἰχμαλωτισθεῖσαν ἀπὸ
γῆς Ἰούδα εἰς πᾶσαν βασιλείαν μου ἀφίημι ἐλευθέραν δωρεάν·
καὶ πάντες ἀφιέτωσαν τοὺς φόρους καὶ τῶν κτηνῶν αὐτῶν.
- 34 Καὶ πᾶσαι αἱ ἐορταὶ καὶ τὰ σάββατα καὶ νουμηνῖαι, καὶ
ἡμέραι ἀποδοδεγμέναι, καὶ τρεῖς ἡμέραι πρὸ ἐορτῆς καὶ τρεῖς
ἡμέραι μετὰ ἐορτῆν, ἔστωσαν πᾶσαι αἱ ἡμέραι ἀτελείας καὶ
ἀφέσεως πᾶσι τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις τοῖς οὖσιν ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ μου.
- 35 Καὶ οὐχ ἔξει ἐξουσίαν οὐδεὶς πρᾶσσειν καὶ παρενοχλεῖν τινα
αὐτῶν περὶ παντὸς πράγματος.
- 36 Καὶ προγραφῆτωσαν τῶν Ἰουδαίων εἰς τὰς δυνάμεις τοῦ
βασιλέως εἰς τριάκοντα χιλιάδας ἀνδρῶν, καὶ δοθήσεται αὐτοῖς
37 ξένια ὡς καθήκει πάσαις ταῖς δυνάμεσι τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ
κατασταθήσεται ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐν τοῖς ὀχυρώμασι τοῦ βασιλέως
τοῖς μεγάλοις, καὶ ἐκ τούτων κατασταθήσεται ἐπὶ χρειῶν τῆς
βασιλείας τῶν οὖσων εἰς πίστιν· καὶ οἱ ἐπ' αὐτῶν καὶ οἱ
ἄρχοντες ἔστωσαν ἐξ αὐτῶν· καὶ πορευέσθωσαν τοῖς νόμοις
αὐτῶν, καθὰ καὶ προσέταξεν ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐν γῇ Ἰούδα.
- 38 Καὶ τοὺς τρεῖς νομοὺς τοὺς προστεθέντας τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ἀπὸ τῆς
χώρας Σαμαρείας, προστεθῆτω τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ πρὸς τὸ λογισθῆναι
τοῦ γενέσθαι ὑφ' ἑνα, τοῦ μὴ ὑπακοῦσαι ἄλλης ἐξουσίας ἀλλ'
ἢ τοῦ ἀρχιερέως.
- 39 Πτολεμαῖδα καὶ τὴν προσκυροῦσαν αὐτῇ δέδωκα δόμα τοῖς
ἀγίοις τοῖς ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ εἰς τὴν προσήκουσαν δαπάνην τοῖς
40 ἀγίοις. Καὶ γὰρ δίδωμι κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν δεκαπέντε χιλιάδας σίκλων
ἀργυρίου ἀπὸ τῶν λόγων τοῦ βασιλέως, ἀπὸ τῶν τόπων τῶν
41 ἀνηκόντων. Καὶ πᾶν τὸ πλεονάζον ὃ οὐκ ἀπεδίδοσαν οἱ ἀπὸ
τῶν χρειῶν, ὡς ἐν τοῖς πρῶτοις ἔτεσιν, ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν δώσουσιν
εἰς τὰ ἔργα τοῦ οἴκου.
- 42 Καὶ ἐπὶ τούτοις, πεντακισχιλίους σίκλους ἀργυρίου, οὓς
ἐλάβανον ἀπὸ τῶν χρειῶν τοῦ ἁγίου ἀπὸ τοῦ λόγου κατ'
ἐνιαυτὸν, καὶ ταῦτα ἀφίεται διὰ τὸ ἀνήκειν αὐτὰ τοῖς ἱερεῦσι
43 τοῖς λειτουργοῦσι. Καὶ ὅσοι ἐὰν φύγωσιν εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν τὸ ἐν
Ἱεροσολύμοις καὶ ἐν πᾶσι τοῖς ὁρίοις αὐτοῦ, ὀφείλοντες βασιλικὰ

enemies, we have heard hereof, and are glad.
27 Wherefore now continue ye still to be
faithful unto us, and we will well recom-
pense you for the things ye do in our behalf,
28 and will grant you many immunities, and
give you rewards.

29 And now do I free you, and for your
sake I release all the Jews, from tributes, and
from the customs of salt, and from crown
taxes, 30 and from that which appertaineth
unto me to receive for the third part of the
seed, and the half of the fruit of the trees, I
release it from this day forth, so that they
shall not be taken of the land of Juda, nor
of the three governments which are added
thereunto out of the country of Samaria and
Galilee, from this day forth for evermore.

31 Let Jerusalem also be holy and free,
with the borders thereof, both from tenths
and tributes. 32 And as for the tower which
is at Jerusalem, I yield up my authority
over it, and give it to the high priest, that
he may set in it such men as he shall choose
to keep it.

33 Moreover I freely set at liberty every
one of the Jews, that were carried captives
out of the land of Juda into any part of my
kingdom, and I will that all my officers
remit the tributes even of their cattle.
34 Furthermore I will that all the feasts,
and sabbaths, and new moons, and solemn
days, and the three days before the feast,
and the three days after the feast, shall be
all days of immunity and freedom for all
the Jews in my realm. 35 Also no man shall
have authority to meddle with them, or to
molest any of them in any matter.

36 I will further, that there be enrolled
among the king's forces about thirty thou-
sand men of the Jews, unto whom pay
shall be given, as belongeth to all the king's
forces. 37 And of them some shall be placed
in the king's strong holds, of whom also
some shall be set over the affairs of the
kingdom, which are of trust: and I will
that their overseers and governors be of
themselves, and that they live after their
own laws, even as the king hath commanded
in the land of Judea.

38 And concerning the three governments
that are added to Judea from the country
of Samaria, let them be joined with Judea,
that they may be reckoned to be under one,
nor bound to obey other authority than the
high priest's.

39 As for Ptolemais, and the land pertain-
ing thereto, I give it as a free gift to the
sanctuary at Jerusalem for the necessary
expences of the sanctuary. 40 Moreover
I give every year fifteen thousand shekels
of silver out of the king's accounts
from the places appertaining. 41 And all
the overplus, which the officers paid not
in as in former time, from henceforth
shall be given toward the works of the
temple.

42 And beside this, the five thousand
shekels of silver, which they took from the
uses of the temple out of the accounts year
by year, even those things shall be released,
because they appertain to the priests that
minister. 43 And whosoever they be that
flee unto the temple at Jerusalem, or be
within the liberties thereof, being indebted
unto the king, or for any other matter, let

them be at liberty, and all that they have in my realm. ⁴⁴ For the building also and repairing of the works of the sanctuary, expences shall be given out of the king's accounts. ⁴⁵ Yea, and for the building of the walls of Jerusalem, and the fortifying thereof round about, expences shall be given out of the king's accounts, as also for the building of the walls in Judea.

⁴⁶ Now when Jonathan and the people heard these words, they gave no credit unto them, nor received them, because they remembered the great evil that he had done in Israel; for he had afflicted them very sore. ⁴⁷ But with Alexander they were well pleased, because he was the first that entreated of true peace with them, and they were confederate with him always.

⁴⁸ Then gathered king Alexander great forces, and camped over against Demetrius. ⁴⁹ And after the two kings had joined battle, Demetrius' host fled: but Alexander followed after him, and prevailed against them. ⁵⁰ And he continued the battle very sore until the sun went down: and that day was Demetrius slain.

⁵¹ Afterward Alexander sent ambassadors to Ptolemee king of Egypt with a message to this effect: ⁵² Forasmuch as I am come again to my realm, and am set in the throne of my progenitors, and have gotten the dominion, and overthrown Demetrius, and recovered our country; ⁵³ for after I had joined battle with him, both he and his host was discomfited by us, so that we sit in the throne of his kingdom: ⁵⁴ now therefore let us make a league of amity together, and give me now thy daughter to wife: and I will be thy son in law, and will give both thee and her gifts according to thy dignity.

⁵⁵ Then Ptolemee the king gave answer, saying, Happy be the day wherein thou didst return into the land of thy fathers, and satest in the throne of their kingdom. ⁵⁶ And now will I do to thee, as thou hast written: meet me therefore at Ptolemais, that we may see one another; for I will marry my daughter to thee according to thy desire.

⁵⁷ So Ptolemee went out of Egypt with his daughter Cleopatra, and they came unto Ptolemais in the hundred threescore and second year: ⁵⁸ where king Alexander meeting him, he gave unto him his daughter Cleopatra, and celebrated her marriage at Ptolemais with great glory, as the manner of kings is.

⁵⁹ Now king Alexander had written unto Jonathan, that he should come and meet him. ⁶⁰ Who thereupon went honourably to Ptolemais, where he met the two kings, and gave them and their friends silver and gold, and many presents, and found favour in their sight.

⁶¹ At that time certain pestilent fellows of Israel, men of a wicked life, assembled themselves against him, to accuse him: but the king would not hear them. ⁶² Yea more than that, the king commanded to take off his garments, and clothe him in purple: and they did so. ⁶³ Also he made him sit by himself, and said unto his princes, Go with him into the midst of the city,

καὶ πᾶν πρᾶγμα, ἀπολελύσθωσαν, καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἐστὶν αὐτοῖς ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ μου. Καὶ τοῦ οἰκοδομηθῆναι καὶ τοῦ ἐπικαινισθῆναι τὰ ἔργα τῶν ἁγίων, καὶ ἡ δαπάνη δοθήσεται ἐκ τοῦ λόγου τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ τοῦ οἰκοδομηθῆναι τὰ τεῖχη ⁴⁵ Ἱερουσαλήμ καὶ ὀχυρῶσαι κυκλόθεν, καὶ ἡ δαπάνη δοθήσεται ἐκ τοῦ λόγου τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ τοῦ οἰκοδομηθῆναι τὰ τεῖχη τὰ ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ.

Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν Ἰωνάθαν καὶ ὁ λαὸς τοὺς λόγους τούτους, οὐκ ⁴⁶ ἐπίστευσαν αὐτοῖς οὐδὲ ἐπεδέξαντο, ὅτι ἐπεμνήσθησαν τῆς κακίας τῆς μεγάλης ἧς ἐποίησεν ἐν Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ ἔθλιψεν αὐτοὺς σφόδρα. Καὶ εὐδόκησαν ἐν Ἀλεξάνδρῳ, ὅτι αὐτὸς ἐγένετο ⁴⁷ αὐτοῖς ἀρχηγὸς λόγων εἰρηνικῶν, καὶ συνεμάχουν αὐτῷ πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας.

Καὶ συνήγαγεν Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ βασιλεὺς δυνάμεις μεγάλας, ⁴⁸ καὶ παρενέβαλεν ἐξεναντίας Δημητρίου. Καὶ συνήψαν πόλεμον ⁴⁹ οἱ δύο βασιλεῖς, καὶ ἔφυγεν ἡ παρεμβολὴ Δημητρίου, καὶ ἐδῶξεν αὐτὸν ὁ Ἀλέξανδρος, καὶ ἴσχυσεν ἐπ' αὐτούς. Καὶ ⁵⁰ ἐστερέωσε τὸν πόλεμον σφόδρα ἕως ἔδου ὁ ἥλιος, καὶ ἔπεισεν ὁ Δημήτριος ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ.

Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν Ἀλέξανδρος πρὸς Πτολεμαῖον βασιλέα ⁵¹ Αἰγύπτου πρέσβεις κατὰ τοὺς λόγους τούτους, λέγων, ἐπεὶ ⁵² ἀνέστρεψα εἰς γῆν βασιλείας μου, καὶ ἐκάθισα ἐπὶ θρόνου πατέρων μου, καὶ ἐκράτησα τῆς ἀρχῆς, καὶ συνέτριψα τὸν Δημήτριον, καὶ ἐπεκράτησα τῆς χώρας ἡμῶν· καὶ συνήψα πρὸς αὐτὸν μάχην, ⁵³ καὶ συνεντρίβη αὐτὸς καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ ὑφ' ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐκάθισαμεν ἐπὶ θρόνου βασιλείας αὐτοῦ· καὶ νῦν στήσωμεν πρὸς ⁵⁴ ἑαυτοὺς φιλίαν, καὶ νῦν δός μοι τὴν θυγατέρα σου εἰς γυναῖκα, καὶ ἐπιγαμβρεύσω σοι, καὶ δώσω σοι δόματα, καὶ αὐτῇ· ἅξιά σου.

Καὶ ἀπεκρίθη Πτολεμαῖος ὁ βασιλεὺς, λέγων, ἀγαθὴ ἡμέρα ⁵⁵ ἐν ἣ ἀνέστρεψας εἰς γῆν πατέρων σου, καὶ ἐκάθισας ἐπὶ θρόνου βασιλείας αὐτῶν. Καὶ νῦν ποιήσω σοι ὅ ἔγραψας, ἀλλ' ἀπάντη- ⁵⁶ σον εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα, ὅπως ἴδωμεν ἀλλήλους, καὶ ἐπιγαμβρεύσω σοι καθὼς εἴρηκας.

Καὶ ἐξῆλθε Πτολεμαῖος ἐξ Αἰγύπτου αὐτὸς καὶ Κλεοπάτρα ⁵⁷ ἡ θυγάτηρ αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἰσῆλθον εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα ἔτους δευτέρου καὶ ἐξηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ. Καὶ ἀπήντησεν αὐτῷ Ἀλέξανδρος ⁵⁸ ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ ἐξέδοτο αὐτῷ Κλεοπάτραν τὴν θυγατέρα αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐποίησε τὸν γάμον αὐτῆς ἐν Πτολεμαίδι, καθὼς οἱ βασιλεῖς, ἐν δόξῃ μεγάλῃ.

Καὶ ἔγραψεν Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ βασιλεὺς τῷ Ἰωνάθαν ἐλθεῖν εἰς ⁵⁹ συνάντησιν αὐτῷ. Καὶ ἐπορεύθη μετὰ δόξης εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα, ⁶⁰ καὶ ἀπήντησε τοῖς δυσὶ βασιλεῦσι· καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἀργύριον καὶ χρυσίον, καὶ τοῖς φίλοις αὐτῶν, καὶ δόματα πολλὰ, καὶ εὖρε χάριν ἐναντίον αὐτῶν.

Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἄνδρες λοιμοὶ ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ, ⁶¹ ἄνδρες παράνομοι, ἐντυχεῖν κατ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐ προσέσχεν αὐτοῖς ὁ βασιλεὺς. Καὶ προσέταξεν ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ ἐξέδυσαν Ἰωνά- ⁶² θαν τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐνέδυσαν αὐτὸν πορφύραν, καὶ ἐποίησαν οὕτως. Καὶ ἐκάθισεν αὐτὸν ὁ βασιλεὺς μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἶπε ⁶³ τοῖς ἀρχουσιν αὐτοῦ, ἐξέλθετε μετ' αὐτοῦ εἰς μέσον τῆς πόλεως,

καὶ κηρύξατε τοῦ μηδένα ἐντυγχάνειν κατ' αὐτοῦ περὶ μη-
δενὸς πράγματος, καὶ μηδεὶς αὐτῷ παρενοχλείτω περὶ παντὸς
λόγου.

64 Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἶδον οἱ ἐντυγχάνοντες τὴν δόξαν αὐτοῦ καθὼς
ἐκήρυξαν, καὶ περιβεβλημένον αὐτὸν πορφύραν, καὶ ἔφυγον
65 πάντες. Καὶ ἐδόξασεν αὐτὸν ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ ἔγραψεν αὐτὸν
τῶν πρώτων φίλων, καὶ ἔθετο αὐτὸν στρατηγὸν καὶ μεριδάρχην.
66 Καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν Ἰωνάθαν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ μετ' εἰρήνης καὶ
εὐφροσύνης.

67 Καὶ ἐν ἔτει πέμπτῳ καὶ ἐξηκοστῷ καὶ ἑκατοστῷ ἦλθε Δη-
μήτριος υἱὸς Δημητρίου ἐκ Κρήτης εἰς τὴν γῆν τῶν πατέρων
68 αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἤκουσεν Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ ἐλυπήθη
σφόδρα, καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν.

69 Καὶ κατέστησε Δημήτριος Ἀπολλώνιον τὸν ὄντα ἐπὶ κοίλης
Συρίας, καὶ συνήγαγε δύναμιν μεγάλην, καὶ παρενέβαλεν ἐν
70 Ἰαμνείᾳ· καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς Ἰωνάθαν τὸν ἀρχιερέα, λέγων, σὺ
μονώτατος ἐπαίρη ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, ἐγὼ δὲ ἐγενήθην εἰς καταγέλωτα
καὶ εἰς ὀνειδισμόν διὰ σέ· καὶ διατί σὺ ἐξουσιάζῃς ἐφ' ἡμᾶς ἐν
τοῖς ὄρεσι;

71 Νῦν οὖν εἰ πέποιθας ἐπὶ ταῖς δυνάμεσί σου, κατάβηθι πρὸς
ἡμᾶς εἰς τὸ πεδίον, καὶ συγκριθῶμεν ἑαυτοῖς ἐκεῖ, ὅτι μετ' ἐμοῦ
72 ἔστι δύναμις τῶν πόλεων. Ἐρώτησον καὶ μάθε τίς εἰμι καὶ οἱ
λοιποὶ οἱ βοηθοῦντες ἡμῖν, καὶ λέγουσιν, οὐκ ἔστιν ὑμῖν στάσις
ποδὸς κατὰ πρόσωπον ἡμῶν; ὅτι δις ἐτροπώθησαν οἱ πατέρες
73 σου ἐν τῇ γῇ αὐτῶν. Καὶ νῦν οὐ δυνήσῃ ὑποστῆναι τὴν ἵππον
καὶ δύναμιν τοιαύτην ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ, ὅπου οὐκ ἔστι λίθος οὐδὲ
κόχλαξ οὐδὲ τόπος τοῦ φυγεῖν.

74 Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν Ἰωνάθαν τῶν λόγων Ἀπολλωνίου, ἐκινήθη
τῇ διανοίᾳ, καὶ ἐπέλεξε δέκα χιλιάδας ἀνδρῶν, καὶ ἐξήλθεν ἐξ
Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ συνήντησεν αὐτῷ Σίμων ὁ ἀδελφὸς αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ
75 βοήθειαν αὐτοῦ. Καὶ παρενέβαλεν ἐπὶ Ἰόππην, καὶ ἀπέκλεισαν
αὐτὸν ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, ὅτι φρουρὰ Ἀπολλωνίου ἐν Ἰόππῃ, καὶ
ἐπολέμησαν αὐτήν.

76 Καὶ φοβηθέντες ἤνοιξαν οἱ ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ἐκυρίενσεν
77 Ἰωνάθαν Ἰόππης. Καὶ ἤκουσεν Ἀπολλώνιος, καὶ παρενέβαλε
τρισχιλίαν ἵππον, καὶ δύναμιν πολλήν· καὶ ἐπορεύθη εἰς Ἀζωτον
ὡς διοδεύων, καὶ ἅμα προῆγεν εἰς τὸ πεδῖον, διὰ τὸ ἔχειν αὐτὸν
πλήθος ἵππου καὶ πεποικέναι ἐπ' αὐτῇ.

78 Καὶ κατεδίωξεν Ἰωνάθαν ὀπίσω αὐτοῦ εἰς Ἀζωτον, καὶ
79 συνήψαν αἱ παρεμβολαὶ εἰς πόλεμον. Καὶ ἀπέλιπεν Ἀπολ-
80 λώνιος χιλίαν ἵππον ἐν κρυπτῷ κατόπισθεν αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἔγνω
Ἰωνάθαν ὅτι ἐστὶν ἔνεδρον κατόπισθεν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐκύκλωσαν
αὐτοῦ τὴν παρεμβολήν, καὶ ἐξετίναξαν τὰς σχίζας εἰς τὸν λαὸν
ἐκ πρωΐθεν ἕως ἑσπέρας.

81 Ὁ δὲ λαὸς εἰστήκει, καθὼς ἐπέταξεν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ ἐκοπίασαν
82 οἱ ἵπποι αὐτῶν. Καὶ εἵλκυσε Σίμων τὴν δύναμιν αὐτοῦ, καὶ
συνῆψε πρὸς τὴν φάραγγα· ἡ γὰρ ἵππος ἐξελύθη· καὶ συνετρί-
83 βησαν ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔφυγον. Καὶ ἡ ἵππος ἐσκορπίσθη ἐν τῷ
πεδίῳ, καὶ ἔφυγον εἰς Ἀζωτον, καὶ εἰσῆλθον εἰς Βηθδαγὼν τὸ
εἰδωλεῖον αὐτῶν, τοῦ σωθῆναι.

and make proclamation, that no man com-
plain against him of any matter, and that
no man trouble him for any manner of
cause.

⁶⁴ Now when his accusers saw that he was
honoured according to the proclamation,
and clothed in purple, they fled all away.

⁶⁵ So the king honoured him, and wrote
him among his chief friends, and made him
a duke, and partaker of his dominion.

⁶⁶ Afterward Jonathan returned to Jeru-
salem with peace and gladness.

⁶⁷ Furthermore in the hundred threescore
and fifth year came Demetrius son of De-
metrius out of Crete into the land of his
fathers: ⁶⁸ whereof when king Alexander
heard tell, he was right sorry, and returned
into Antioch.

⁶⁹ Then Demetrius made Apollonius the
governor of Celosyria his general, who
gathered together a great host, and camped
in Jamnia, and sent unto Jonathan the
high priest, saying, ⁷⁰ Thou alone liftest up
thyself against us, and I am laughed to
scorn for thy sake, and reproached: and
why dost thou vaunt thy power against us
in the mountains?

⁷¹ Now therefore, if thou trustest in thine
own strength, come down to us into the
plain field, and there let us try the matter
together: for with me is the power of the
cities. ⁷² Ask and learn who I am, and the
rest that take our part, and they shall tell
thee that thy foot is not able to stand be-
fore our face; for thy fathers have been
twice put to flight in their own land.
⁷³ Wherefore now thou shalt not be able to
abide the horsemen and so great a power in
the plain, where is neither stone nor flint,
nor place to flee unto.

⁷⁴ So when Jonathan heard these words
of Apollonius, he was moved in his mind,
and choosing ten thousand men he went
out of Jerusalem, where Simon his brother
met him for to help him. ⁷⁵ And he pitched
his tents against Joppe: but they shut him
out of the city, because Apollonius had a
garrison in Joppe.

⁷⁶ Then Jonathan laid siege unto it: where-
upon they of the city let him in for fear:
and so Jonathan won Joppe. ⁷⁷ Whereof
when Apollonius heard, he took three thou-
sand horsemen, with a great host of footmen,
and went to Azotus as one that journeyed,
and therewithal drew him forth into the
plain, because he had a great number of
horsemen, in whom he put his trust.

⁷⁸ Then Jonathan followed after him to
Azotus, where the armies joined battle.
⁷⁹ Now Apollonius had left a thousand
horsemen in ambush. ⁸⁰ And Jonathan
knew that there was an ambushment behind
him; for they had compassed in his host,
and cast darts at the people, from morning
till evening.

⁸¹ But the people stood still, as Jonathan
had commanded them: and so the ene-
mies' horses were tired. ⁸² Then brought
Simon forth his host, and set them against
the footmen, (for the horsemen were
spent,) who were discomfited by him, and
fled. ⁸³ The horsemen also, being scattered
in the field, fled to Azotus, and went
into Beth-dagon, their idol's temple, for
safety.

⁸⁴ But Jonathan set fire on Azotus, and the cities round about it, and took their spoils; and the temple of Dagon, with them that were fled into it, he burned with fire. ⁸⁵ Thus there were burned and slain with the sword well nigh eight thousand men. ⁸⁶ And from thence Jonathan removed his host, and camped against Ascalon, where the men of the city came forth, and met him with great pomp. ⁸⁷ After this returned Jonathan and his host unto Jerusalem, having many spoils.

⁸⁸ Now when king Alexander heard these things, he honoured Jonathan yet more, ⁸⁹ and sent him a buckle of gold, as the use is to be given to such as are of the king's blood: he gave him also Accaron with the borders thereof in possession.

And the king of Egypt gathered together a great host, like the sand that lieth upon the sea shore, and many ships, and went about through deceit to get Alexander's kingdom, and join it to his own. ² Whereupon he took his journey into Syria in peaceable manner, so as they of the cities opened unto him, and met him: for king Alexander had commanded them so to do, because he was his father in law.

³ Now as Ptolemee entered into the cities, he set in every one of them a garrison of soldiers to keep it. ⁴ And when he came near to Azotus, they shewed him the temple of Dagon that was burnt, and Azotus and the suburbs thereof that were destroyed, and the bodies that were cast abroad, and them that he had burnt in the battle: for they had made heaps of them by the way where he should pass. ⁵ Also they told the king whatsoever Jonathan had done, to the intent he might blame him: but the king held his peace.

⁶ Then Jonathan met the king with great pomp at Joppe, where they saluted one another, and lodged. ⁷ Afterward Jonathan, when he had gone with the king to the river called Eleutherus, returned again to Jerusalem.

⁸ King Ptolemee therefore, having gotten the dominion of the cities by the sea unto Seleucia upon the sea coast, imagined wicked counsels against Alexander. ⁹ Whereupon he sent ambassadors unto king Demetrius, saying, Come, let us make a league betwixt us, and I will give thee my daughter whom Alexander hath, and thou shalt reign in thy father's kingdom: ¹⁰ for I repent that I gave my daughter unto him, for he sought to slay me. ¹¹ Thus did he slander him, because he was desirous of his kingdom.

¹² Wherefore he took his daughter from him, and gave her to Demetrius, and forsook Alexander, so that their hatred was openly known. ¹³ Then Ptolemee entered into Antioch, where he set two crowns upon his head, the crown of Asia, and of Egypt.

¹⁴ In the mean season was king Alexander in Cilicia, because those that dwelt in those parts had revolted from him. ¹⁵ But when Alexander heard of this, he came to war against him: whereupon king Ptolemee brought forth his host, and met him with a mighty power, and put him to flight.

¹⁶ So Alexander fled into Arabia, there to be defended; but king Ptolemee was

Καὶ ἐνεπύρισεν Ἰωνάθαν τὴν Ἀζωτον καὶ τὰς πόλεις τὰς 84
κύκλῳ αὐτῆς, καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῶν, καὶ τὸ ἱερὸν Δαγῶν 85
καὶ τοὺς συμφυγόντας εἰς αὐτὸ ἐνεπύρισε πυρί. Καὶ ἐγένοντο 85
οἱ πεπτωκότες μαχαίρα σὺν τοῖς ἐμπυρισθεῖσιν εἰς ἄνδρας
ὀκτακισχιλίους. Καὶ ἀπῆρεν ἐκεῖθεν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ παρενέβαλεν 86
ἐπὶ Ἀσκάλωνα, καὶ ἐξῆλθον οἱ ἐκ τῆς πόλεως εἰς συνάντησιν
αὐτῷ ἐν δόξῃ μεγάλη. Καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν Ἰωνάθαν εἰς Ἱερουσα- 87
λήμ σὺν τοῖς παρ' αὐτοῦ, ἔχοντες σκῦλα πολλά.

Καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἤκουσεν Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ βασιλεὺς τοὺς λόγους 88
τούτους, καὶ προσέθετο δοξάσαι τὸν Ἰωνάθαν. Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν 89
αὐτῷ πόρπην χρυσήν, ὡς ἔθος ἐστὶ δίδοσθαι τοῖς συγγενέσι τῶν
βασιλέων· καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ τὴν Ἀκκαρὼν καὶ πάντα τὰ ὄρια
αὐτῆς εἰς κληροδοσίαν.

Καὶ ὁ βασιλεὺς Αἰγύπτου ἤθροισε δυνάμεις πολλὰς, ὡς τὴν 11
ἄμμον τὴν περὶ τὸ χεῖλος τῆς θαλάσσης, καὶ πλοῖα πολλὰ·
καὶ ἐζήτησε κατακρατῆσαι τῆς βασιλείας Ἀλεξάνδρου δόλῳ,
καὶ προσθεῖναι αὐτὴν τῇ βασιλείᾳ αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς 2
Συρίαν λόγοις εἰρηνικοῖς, καὶ ἦνοιγον αὐτῷ οἱ ἀπὸ τῶν πόλεων,
καὶ συνήντων αὐτῷ, ὅτι ἐντολὴ ἦν Ἀλεξάνδρου τοῦ βασιλέως
συναντᾶν αὐτῷ, διὰ τὸ πενθερὸν αὐτοῦ εἶναι.

Ὡς δὲ εἰσπορεύετο εἰς τὰς πόλεις ὁ Πτολεμαῖος, ἀπέτασσε 3
τὰς δυνάμεις φρουρὰν ἐν ἐκάστη πόλει. Ὡς δὲ ἤγγισεν Ἀζώτου, 4
ἔδειξαν αὐτῷ τὸ ἱερὸν Δαγῶν ἐμπεπυρισμένον, καὶ Ἀζωτον,
καὶ τὰ περιπόλια αὐτῆς καθηρημένα, καὶ τὰ σώματα ἐρριμμένα,
καὶ τοὺς ἐμπεπυρισμένους οὓς ἐνεπύρισεν ἐν τῷ πολέμῳ· ἐποί-
ησαν γὰρ θημωνίας αὐτῶν ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ αὐτοῦ. Καὶ διηγῆσαντο 5
τῷ βασιλεῖ ἃ ἐποίησεν Ἰωνάθαν, εἰς τὸ ψογῆσαι αὐτόν· καὶ
εἰσίγησεν ὁ βασιλεὺς.

Καὶ συνήντησεν Ἰωνάθαν τῷ βασιλεῖ εἰς Ἰόππην μετὰ 6
δόξης, καὶ ἡσπᾶσαντο ἀλλήλους, καὶ ἐκοιμήθησαν ἐκεῖ. Καὶ 7
ἐπορεύθη Ἰωνάθαν μετὰ τοῦ βασιλέως ἕως τοῦ ποταμοῦ τοῦ
καλουμένου Ἐλευθέρου, καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ.

Ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς Πτολεμαῖος ἐκυρίευσεν τῶν πόλεων τῆς παρα- 8
λίας ἕως Σελευκείας τῆς παραθαλασσίας, καὶ διελογίζετο περὶ
Ἀλεξάνδρου λογισμοὺς πονηροῦς. Καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρέσβεις πρὸς 9
Δημήτριον τὸν βασιλέα, λέγων, δεῦρο συνθώμεθα πρὸς ἑαυτοὺς
διαθήκην, καὶ δώσω σοι τὴν θυγατέρα μου ἣν ἔχει Ἀλέξανδρος,
καὶ βασιλεύσεις τῆς βασιλείας τοῦ πατρός σου. Μεταμεμέλη- 10
μαι γὰρ δὸς αὐτῷ τὴν θυγατέρα μου, ἐζήτησε γὰρ ἀποκτεῖναί
με. Καὶ ἐψόγησεν αὐτὸν χάριν τοῦ ἐπιθυμῆσαι αὐτὸν τῆς 11
βασιλείας αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ ἀφελόμενος αὐτοῦ τὴν θυγατέρα, ἔδωκεν αὐτὴν τῷ Δημη- 12
τρίῳ, καὶ ἡλλοιώθη τοῦ Ἀλεξάνδρου, καὶ ἐφάνη ἡ ἔχθρα αὐτῶν.
Καὶ εἰσῆλθε Πτολεμαῖος εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν, καὶ περιέθετο δύο 13
διαδήματα περὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ, τὸ τῆς Ἀσίας καὶ Αἰγύπτου.

Ἀλέξανδρος δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς ἦν ἐν Κιλικίᾳ κατὰ τοὺς καιροὺς 14
ἐκείνους, ὅτι ἀπεστάτουν οἱ ἀπὸ τῶν τόπων ἐκείνων. Καὶ 15
ἤκουσεν Ἀλέξανδρος, καὶ ἦλθεν ἐπ' αὐτὸν πολέμῳ· καὶ ἐξήγαγε
Πτολεμαῖος τὴν δύναμιν, καὶ ἀπῆντησεν αὐτῷ ἐν χειρὶ ἰσχυρᾷ,
καὶ ἐτροπώσατο αὐτόν.

Καὶ ἔφυγεν Ἀλέξανδρος εἰς τὴν Ἀραβίαν, τοῦ σκεπασθῆναι 16

- 17 αὐτὸν ἐκεῖ· ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς Πτολεμαῖος ὑψώθη. Καὶ ἀφείλε Ζαβδιήλ ὁ Ἄραψ τὴν κεφαλὴν Ἀλεξάνδρου, καὶ ἀπέστειλε τῷ Πτολεμαίῳ.
- 18 Καὶ ὁ βασιλεὺς Πτολεμαῖος ἀπέθανεν ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῇ τρίτῃ, καὶ οἱ ὄντες ἐν τοῖς ὀχυρώμασιν ἀπόλοντο ὑπὸ τῶν ἐν τοῖς ὀχυρώμασι. Καὶ ἐβασίλευσε Δημήτριος ἔτους ἐβδόμου καὶ ἑξηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ.
- 20 Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις συνήγαγεν Ἰωνάθαν τοὺς ἐκ τῆς Ἰουδαίας, τοῦ ἐκπολεμῆσαι τὴν ἄκραν τὴν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ
- 21 ἐποίησεν ἐπ' αὐτὴν μηχανὰς πολλὰς. Καὶ ἐπορεύθησάν τινες μισοῦντες τὸ ἔθνος αὐτῶν, ἄνδρες παράνομοι, πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα, καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν αὐτῷ ὅτι Ἰωνάθαν περικάθηται τὴν ἄκραν.
- 22 Καὶ ἀκούσας ὠργίσθη· ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν, εὐθέως ἀναζεύξας ἦλθεν εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα, καὶ ἔγραψεν Ἰωνάθαν, τοῦ μὴ περικαθῆσθαι τῇ ἄκρᾳ, καὶ τοῦ ἀπαντῆσαι αὐτὸν αὐτῷ συμμίσγειν εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα τὴν ταχίστην.
- 23 Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν Ἰωνάθαν, ἐκέλευσε περικαθῆσθαι, καὶ ἐπέλεξε τῶν πρεσβυτέρων Ἰσραὴλ καὶ τῶν ἱερέων, καὶ ἔδωκεν ἑαυτὸν τῷ
- 24 κινδύνῳ. Καὶ λαβὼν ἀργύριον, καὶ χρυσίον, καὶ ἱματισμὸν, καὶ ἕτερα ξένια πλείονα, ἐπορεύθη πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα, καὶ εὗρε χάριν ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ.
- 25 Καὶ ἐνετύγχανον κατ' αὐτοῦ τινὲς ἄνομοι τῆς ἐκ τοῦ ἔθνους.
- 26 Καὶ ἐποίησεν αὐτῷ ὁ βασιλεὺς καθὼς ἐποίησαν αὐτῷ οἱ πρὸ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὑψωσεν αὐτὸν ἐναντίον πάντων τῶν φίλων αὐτοῦ.
- 27 Καὶ ἔστησεν αὐτῷ τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην, καὶ ὅσα ἄλλα εἶχε τίμια τοπρότερον, καὶ ἐποίησεν αὐτὸν τῶν πρώτων φίλων ἡγείσθαι.
- 28 Καὶ ἡξίωσεν Ἰωνάθαν τὸν βασιλέα ποιῆσαι τὴν Ἰουδαίαν ἀφορολόγητον, καὶ τὰς τρεῖς τοπαρχίας, καὶ τὴν Σαμαρείτιν, καὶ
- 29 ἐπηγγείλατο αὐτῷ τάλαντα τριακόσια. Καὶ εὐδόκησεν ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ ἔγραψε τῷ Ἰωνάθαν ἐπιστολὰς περὶ πάντων τούτων ἐχούσας τὸν τρόπον τούτον·
- 30 Βασιλεὺς Δημήτριος Ἰωνάθαν τῷ ἀδελφῷ χαίρειν, καὶ ἔθνει
- 31 Ἰουδαίων. Τὸ ἀντίγραφον τῆς ἐπιστολῆς ἧς ἐγράψαμεν Λασθένει τῷ συγγενεῖ ἡμῶν περὶ ὑμῶν, γεγράφαμεν καὶ πρὸς ὑμᾶς, ὅπως εἰδῆτε.
- 32, 33 Βασιλεὺς Δημήτριος Λασθένει τῷ πατρὶ χαίρειν. Τῷ ἔθνει τῶν Ἰουδαίων φίλοις ἡμῶν καὶ συντηροῦσι τὰ πρὸς ἡμᾶς δίκαια ἐκρίναμεν ἀγαθοποιῆσαι, χάριν τῆς ἐξ αὐτῶν εὐνοίας
- 34 πρὸς ἡμᾶς. Ἐστάκαμεν οὖν αὐτοῖς τὰ τε ὅρια τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ τοὺς τρεῖς νομοὺς, Ἀφαίρεμα, καὶ Λύδδαν, καὶ Ῥαμαθὲμ, αἵτινες προσετέθησαν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ ἀπὸ τῆς Σαμαρείτιδος, καὶ πάντα τὰ συγκυροῦντα αὐτοῖς πᾶσι τοῖς θυσιάζουσιν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα, ἀντὶ τῶν βασιλικῶν ὧν ἐλάμβανεν ὁ βασιλεὺς παρ' αὐτῶν τοπρότερον κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν ἀπὸ τῶν γεννημάτων τῆς γῆς, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν ἀκροδρῶν.
- 35 Καὶ τὰ ἄλλα τὰ ἀνήκοντα ἡμῖν ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν τῶν δεκατῶν, καὶ τῶν τελῶν τῶν ἀνηκόντων ἡμῖν, καὶ τὰς τοῦ ἀλὸς λίμνας, καὶ τοὺς ἀνήκοντας ἡμῖν στεφάνους, πάντα ἐπαρκῶς παρίεμεν
- 36 αὐτοῖς. Καὶ οὐκ ἀθετηθήσεται οὐδὲ ἐν τούτων ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν καὶ εἰς τὸν ἅπαντα χρόνον.
- 37 Νῦν οὖν ἐπιμέλεσθε τοῦ ποιῆσαι τούτων ἀντίγραφον· καὶ

exalted: ¹⁷ for Zabdiel the Arabian took off Alexander's head, and sent it unto Ptolemee. ¹⁸ King Ptolemee also died the third day after, and they that were in the strong holds were slain one of another. ¹⁹ By this means Demetrius reigned in the hundred threescore and seventh year.

²⁰ At the same time Jonathan gathered together them that were in Judea, to take the tower that was in Jerusalem: and he made many engines of war against it. ²¹ Then certain ungodly persons, who hated their own people, went unto the king, and told him that Jonathan besieged the tower. ²² Whereof when he heard, he was angry, and immediately removing, he came to Ptolemais, and wrote unto Jonathan, that he should not lay siege to the tower, but come and speak with him at Ptolemais in great haste.

²³ Nevertheless Jonathan, when he heard this, commanded to besiege it *still*: and he chose certain of the elders of Israel and the priests, and put himself in peril; ²⁴ and took silver and gold, and raiment, and divers presents besides, and went to Ptolemais unto the king, where he found favour in his sight.

²⁵ And though certain ungodly men of the people had made complaints against him, ²⁶ yet the king entreated him as his predecessors had done before, and promoted him in the sight of all his friends, ²⁷ and confirmed him in the high priesthood, and in all the honours that he had before, and gave him pre-eminence among his chief friends.

²⁸ Then Jonathan desired the king, that he would make Judea free from tribute, as also the three governments, with the country of Samaria; and he promised him three hundred talents. ²⁹ So the king consented, and wrote letters unto Jonathan of all these things after this manner:

³⁰ King Demetrius unto his brother Jonathan, and unto the nation of the Jews, sendeth greeting: ³¹ We send you here a copy of the letter which we did write unto our cousin Lasthenes concerning you, that ye might see it.

³² King Demetrius unto his father Lasthenes sendeth greeting: ³³ We are determined to do good to the people of the Jews, who are our friends, and keep covenants with us, because of their good will toward us. ³⁴ Wherefore we have ratified unto them the borders of Judea, with the three governments of Apherema and Lydda and Ramathem, that are added unto Judea from the country of Samaria, and all things appertaining unto them, for all such as do sacrifice in Jerusalem, instead of the payments which the king received of them yearly aforetime out of the fruits of the earth and of trees.

³⁵ And as for other things that belong unto us, of the tithes and customs pertaining unto us, as also the saltpits, and the crown taxes, which are due unto us, we discharge them of them all for their relief. ³⁶ And nothing hereof shall be revoked from this time forth for ever.

³⁷ Now therefore see that thou make a copy of these things, and let it be delivered

unto Jonathan, and set upon the holy mount in a conspicuous place.

³⁸ After this, when king Demetrius saw that the land was quiet before him, and that no resistance was made against him, he sent away all his forces, every one to his own place, except certain bands of strangers, whom he had gathered from the isles of the heathen: wherefore all the forces of his fathers hated him.

³⁹ Moreover there was one Tryphon, that had been of Alexander's part afore, who, seeing that all the host murmured against Demetrius, went to Simalcue the Arabian, that brought up Antiochus the young son of Alexander, ⁴⁰ and lay sore upon him to deliver him *this young Antiochus*, that he might reign in his father's stead: he told him therefore all that Demetrius had done, and how his men of war were at enmity with him, and there he remained a long season.

⁴¹ In the mean time Jonathan sent unto king Demetrius, that he would cast those of the tower out of Jerusalem, and those also in the fortresses: for they fought against Israel. ⁴² So Demetrius sent unto Jonathan, saying, I will not only do this for thee and thy people, but I will greatly honour thee and thy nation, if opportunity serve. ⁴³ Now therefore thou shalt do well, if thou send me men to help me; for all my forces are gone from me.

⁴⁴ Upon this Jonathan sent him three thousand strong men unto Antioch: and when they came to the king, the king was very glad of their coming. ⁴⁵ Howbeit they that were of the city gathered themselves together into the midst of the city, to the number of an hundred and twenty thousand men, and would have slain the king. ⁴⁶ Wherefore the king fled into the court, but they of the city kept the passages of the city, and began to fight.

⁴⁷ Then the king called to the Jews for help, who came unto him all at once, and dispersing themselves through the city slew that day in the city to the number of an hundred thousand. ⁴⁸ Also they set fire on the city, and gat many spoils that day, and delivered the king.

⁴⁹ So when they of the city saw that the Jews had got the city as they would, their courage was abated: wherefore they made supplication to the king, and cried, saying, ⁵⁰ Grant us peace, and let the Jews cease from assaulting us and the city. ⁵¹ With that they cast away their weapons, and made peace; and the Jews were honoured in the sight of the king, and in the sight of all that were in his realm; and they returned to Jerusalem, having great spoils.

⁵² So king Demetrius sat on the throne of his kingdom, and the land was quiet before him. ⁵³ Nevertheless he dissembled in all that ever he spake, and estranged himself from Jonathan, neither rewarded he him according to the benefits which he had received of him, but troubled him very sore.

⁵⁴ After this returned Tryphon, and with him the young child Antiochus, who reigned, and was crowned. ⁵⁵ Then there gathered unto him all the men of war, whom Demetrius had put away, and they fought against Demetrius, who turned his back and fled.

δοθήτω Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ τεθήτω ἐν τῷ ὄρει τῷ ἁγίῳ ἐν τόπῳ ἐπισήμῳ.

Καὶ εἶδε Δημήτριος ὁ βασιλεὺς ὅτι ἡσύχασεν ἡ γῆ ἐνώπιον 38 αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐδὲν αὐτῷ ἀνθιστήκει, καὶ ἀπέλυσε πάσας τὰς δυνάμεις αὐτοῦ ἕκαστον εἰς τὸν ἴδιον τόπον, πλὴν τῶν ξένων δυνάμεων ὧν ἐξενολόγησεν ἀπὸ τῶν νήσων τῶν ἐθνῶν· καὶ ἤχθραν αὐτῷ πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν πατέρων αὐτοῦ.

Τρύφων δὲ ἦν τῶν παρὰ Ἀλεξάνδρου τοπρότερον, καὶ εἶδεν 39 ὅτι πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις καταγογγύζουσι τοῦ Δημητρίου, καὶ ἐπορεύθη πρὸς Εἰμαλκοναὶ τὸν Ἀραβα, ὃς ἔτρεφε τὸν Ἀντίοχον τὸ παιδάριον τὸ τοῦ Ἀλεξάνδρου· καὶ προσήδρευν αὐτῷ, 40 ὅπως παραδοῖ αὐτὸν αὐτῷ, ὅπως βασιλεύσῃ ἀντὶ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτῷ ὅσα συνετέλεσε Δημήτριος, καὶ τὴν ἔχθραν ἣν ἐχθραίνουσιν αὐτῷ αἱ δυνάμεις αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐκεῖ ἡμέρας πολλὰς.

Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν Ἰωνάθαν πρὸς Δημήτριον τὸν βασιλέα, ἵνα 41 ἐκβάλλῃ τοὺς ἐκ τῆς ἄκρας ἐξ Ἱερουσαλήμ, καὶ τοὺς ἐν τοῖς ὀχυρώμασιν, ἦσαν γὰρ πολεμοῦντες τὸν Ἰσραήλ. Καὶ ἀπέστειλε 42 Δημήτριος πρὸς Ἰωνάθαν, λέγων, οὐ μόνον ταῦτα ποιήσω σοι καὶ τῷ ἔθνει σου, ἀλλὰ δόξῃ δοξάσω σε καὶ τὸ ἔθνος σου, ἐὰν εὐκαιρίας τύχω. Νῦν οὖν ὀρθῶς ποιήσεις ἀποστείλας μοι 43 ἄνδρας οἱ συμμαχήσουσιν, ὅτι ἀπέστησαν πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις μου.

Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν Ἰωνάθαν ἄνδρας τρισχιλίους δυνατοὺς ἰσχυροὺς 44 αὐτῷ εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν, καὶ ἤλθοσαν πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα, καὶ εὐφράνθη ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐπὶ τῇ ἐφόδῳ αὐτῶν. Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθη- 45 σαν οἱ ἐκ τῆς πόλεως εἰς μέσον τῆς πόλεως εἰς ἀνδρῶν δώδεκα μυριάδας, καὶ ἠβούλοντο ἀνελεῖν τὸν βασιλέα. Καὶ ἔφυγεν 46 ὁ βασιλεὺς εἰς τὴν αὐλὴν, καὶ κατελάβοντο οἱ ἐκ τῆς πόλεως τὰς διόδους τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ἤρξαντο πολεμεῖν.

Καὶ ἐκάλεσεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τοὺς Ἰουδαίους ἐπὶ βοήθειαν, καὶ 47 ἐπισυνήχθησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν πάντες ἅμα· καὶ διεσπάρησαν ἐν τῇ πόλει πάντες ἅμα· καὶ ἀπέκτειναν ἐν τῇ πόλει τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ εἰς μυριάδας δέκα. Καὶ ἐνεπύρισαν τὴν πόλιν, καὶ ἐλάβοσαν 48 σκῦλα πολλὰ ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, καὶ ἔσωσαν τὸν βασιλέα.

Καὶ ἶδον οἱ ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως ὅτι κατεκράτησαν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι τῆς 49 πόλεως, ὥς ἠβούλοντο, καὶ ἡσθένησαν ταῖς διανοαῖς αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐκέκραξαν πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα μετὰ δεήσεως, λέγοντες, δὸς 50 ἡμῖν δεξιὰς, καὶ πανσάσθωσαν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι πολεμοῦντες ἡμᾶς καὶ τὴν πόλιν. Καὶ ἔρριψαν τὰ ὄπλα, καὶ ἐποίησαν εἰρήνην· 51 καὶ ἐδοξάσθησαν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ἐναντίον τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ ἐνώπιον πάντων τῶν ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπέστρεψαν εἰς Ἱερουσαλήμ ἔχοντες σκῦλα πολλὰ.

Καὶ ἐκάθισε Δημήτριος ὁ βασιλεὺς ἐπὶ θρόνον τῆς βασιλείας 52 αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἡσύχασεν ἡ γῆ ἐνώπιον αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐψεύσατο πάντα 53 ὅσα εἶπε, καὶ ἠλλοτριώθη τῷ Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ οὐκ ἀνταπέδωκε κατὰ τὰς ἐννοίας ἃς ἀνταπέδωκεν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἔθλιβεν αὐτὸν σφόδρα.

Μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα ἀπέστρεψε Τρύφων καὶ Ἀντίοχος μετ' αὐτοῦ 54 παιδάριον νεώτερον· καὶ ἐβασίλευσε καὶ ἐπέθετο διάδημα. Καὶ ἐπισυνήχθησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις ἃς ἀπεσκόρ- 55 πισε Δημήτριος, καὶ ἐπολέμησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν, καὶ ἔφυγε καὶ

- 56 ἐτροπώθη. Καὶ ἔλαβε Τρύφων τὰ θηρία, καὶ κατεκράτησεν Ἀντιοχείας.
- 57 Καὶ ἔγραψεν Ἀντίοχος ὁ νεώτερος τῷ Ἰωνάθαν, λέγων, ἴστημί σοι τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην, καὶ καθίστημί σε ἐπὶ τῶν τεσσάρων νομῶν, καὶ εἶναι σε τῶν φίλων τοῦ βασιλέως. Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτῷ χρυσώματα καὶ διακονίαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν πίνειν ἐν χρυσώμασι, καὶ εἶναι ἐν πορφύρᾳ, καὶ ἔχειν πόρπην χρυσῇν. Καὶ Σίμωνα τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ κατέστησε στρατηγὸν ἀπὸ τῆς κλίμακος Τύρου ἕως τῶν ὀρίων Αἰγύπτου.
- 60 Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ διεπορεύετο πέραν τοῦ ποταμοῦ, καὶ ἐν ταῖς πόλεσι, καὶ ἠθροίσθησαν πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις Συρίας εἰς συμμαχίαν, καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς Ἀσκάλωνα, καὶ ἀπήντησαν αὐτῷ οἱ ἐκ τῆς πόλεως ἐνδόξως.
- 61 Καὶ ἀπῆλθεν ἐκεῖθεν εἰς Γάζαν, καὶ ἀπέκλεισαν οἱ ἀπὸ Γάζης, καὶ περιεκάθισε περὶ αὐτήν, καὶ ἐνεπύρισε τὰ περιπόλια αὐτῆς πυρὶ, καὶ ἐσκόλευσεν αὐτά. Καὶ ἠξίωσαν οἱ ἀπὸ Γάζης τὸν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς δεξιὰς, καὶ ἔλαβε τοὺς υἱοὺς ἀρχόντων αὐτῶν εἰς ὄμηρα, καὶ ἐξαπέστειλεν αὐτοὺς εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ διῆλθε τὴν χώραν ἕως Δαμασκού.
- 63 Καὶ ἤκουσεν Ἰωνάθαν ὅτι παρήσαν οἱ ἄρχοντες Δημητρίου εἰς Κάδης τὴν ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ, μετὰ δυνάμειος πολλῆς, βουλόμενοι μεταστῆσαι αὐτὸν τῆς χρείας. Καὶ συνήντησεν αὐτοῖς, τὸν δὲ ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ Σίμωνα κατέλιπεν ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ. Καὶ παρενέβαλε Σίμων ἐπὶ Βαιθούρα, καὶ ἐπολέμει αὐτὴν ἡμέρας πολλὰς, καὶ συνέκλεισεν αὐτήν. Καὶ ἠξίωσαν αὐτὸν τοῦ δεξιᾶς λαβεῖν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ἐξέβαλεν αὐτοὺς ἐκεῖθεν, καὶ κατελάβετο τὴν πόλιν, καὶ ἔθετο ἐπ' αὐτῇ φρουράν.
- 67 Καὶ Ἰωνάθαν καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ παρενέβαλον ἐπὶ τὸ ὕδωρ Γεννησάρ, καὶ ὠρθρισαν τοπρῶι εἰς τὸ πεδῖον Νασώρ.
- 68 Καὶ ἰδοὺ παρεμβολὴ ἀλλοφύλων ἀπήντα αὐτῷ ἐν τῷ πεδίῳ, καὶ ἐξέβαλον ἐνεδρον ἐπ' αὐτὸν ἐν τοῖς ὄρεσιν, αὐτοὶ δὲ ἀπήντησαν ἐξεναντίας.
- 69 Τὰ δὲ ἐνεδρα ἐξανέστησαν ἐκ τῶν τόπων αὐτῶν, καὶ συνῆψαν πόλεμον· καὶ ἔφυγον οἱ παρὰ Ἰωνάθαν πάντες, οὐδὲ εἰς κατελείφθη ἀπ' αὐτῶν, πλὴν Ματθαθίας ὁ τοῦ Ἀβεσσαλώμου, καὶ Ἰούδας ὁ τοῦ Χαλφὶ, ἄρχοντες τῆς στρατιᾶς τῶν δυνάμεων.
- 71 Καὶ διέρρηξεν Ἰωνάθαν τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπέθηκε γῆν ἐπὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ προσηύξατο. Καὶ ὑπέστρεψε πρὸς αὐτοὺς πολέμῳ, καὶ ἐτροπώσατο αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἔφυγον. Καὶ ἶδον οἱ φεύγοντες οἱ παρ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπέστρεψαν πρὸς αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐδίωκον μετ' αὐτοῦ ἕως Κάδης ἕως τῆς παρεμβολῆς αὐτῶν, καὶ παρενέβαλον ἐκεῖ.
- 74 Καὶ ἔπεσον ἐκ τῶν ἀλλοφύλων ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ εἰς ἄνδρας τρισχιλίους· καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν Ἰωνάθαν εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ.
- 12 Καὶ εἶδεν Ἰωνάθαν ὅτι ὁ καιρὸς αὐτῷ συνεργεῖ, καὶ ἐπέλεξεν ἄνδρας, καὶ ἀπέστειλεν εἰς Ῥώμην, στήσαι καὶ ἀνανεώσασθαι τὴν πρὸς αὐτοὺς φιλίαν. Καὶ πρὸς Σπαρτιάτας, καὶ τόπους ἐτέρους ἀπέστειλεν ἐπιστολὰς κατὰ τὰ αὐτά.

⁵⁶ Moreover Tryphon took the elephants, and won Antioch.

⁵⁷ At that time young Antiochus wrote unto Jonathan, saying, I confirm thee in the high priesthood, and appoint thee ruler over the four governments, and to be one of the king's friends. ⁵⁸ Upon this he sent him golden vessels to be served in, and gave him leave to drink in gold, and to be clothed in purple, and to wear a golden buckle. ⁵⁹ His brother Simon also he made captain from the place called The ladder of Tyrus unto the borders of Egypt.

⁶⁰ Then Jonathan went forth, and passed through the cities beyond the water, and all the forces of Syria gathered themselves unto him for to help him: and when he came to Ascalon, they of the city met him honourably.

⁶¹ From whence he went to Gaza, but they of Gaza shut him out; wherefore he laid siege unto it, and burned the suburbs thereof with fire, and spoiled them. ⁶² Afterward, when they of Gaza made supplication unto Jonathan, he made peace with them, and took the sons of their chief men for hostages, and sent them to Jerusalem, and passed through the country unto Damascus.

⁶³ Now when Jonathan heard that Demetrius' princes were come to Cades, which is in Galilee, with a great power, purposing to remove him out of the country, ⁶⁴ he went to meet them, and left Simon his brother in the country. ⁶⁵ Then Simon encamped against Bethsura, and fought against it a long season, and shut it up: ⁶⁶ but they desired to have peace with him, which he granted them, and then put them out from thence, and took the city, and set a garrison in it.

⁶⁷ As for Jonathan and his host, they pitched at the water of Gennesar, from whence betimes in the morning they gat them to the plain of Nazor. ⁶⁸ And, behold, the host of strangers met them in the plain, who, having laid men in ambush for him in the mountains, came themselves over against him.

⁶⁹ So when they that lay in ambush rose out of their places, and joined battle, all that were of Jonathan's side fled; ⁷⁰ inso-much as there was not one of them left, except Mattathias the son of Absalom, and Judas the son of Calphi, the captains of the host.

⁷¹ Then Jonathan rent his clothes, and cast earth upon his head, and prayed. ⁷² Afterwards turning again to battle, he put them to flight, and so they ran away. ⁷³ Now when his own men that were fled saw this, they turned again unto him, and with him pursued them to Cades, even unto their own tents, and there they camped.

⁷⁴ So there were slain of the heathen that day about three thousand men: but Jonathan returned to Jerusalem.

Now when Jonathan saw that the time served him, he chose certain men, and sent them to Rome, for to confirm and renew the friendship that they had with them. ² He sent letters also to the Lacedaemonians, and to other places, for the same purpose.

³So they went unto Rome, and entered into the senate, and said, Jonathan the high priest, and the people of the Jews, sent us unto you, to the end ye should renew the friendship, which ye had with them, and league, as in former time. ⁴Upon this *the Romans* gave them letters unto the governors of every place, that they should bring them into the land of Judea peaceably. ⁵And this is the copy of the letters which Jonathan wrote to the Lacedemonians:

⁶Jonathan the high priest, and the elders of the nation, and the priests, and the other people of the Jews, unto the Lacedemonians their brethren send greeting:

⁷There were letters sent in times past unto Onias the high priest from Darius, who reigned then among you, to signify that ye are our brethren, as the copy here underwritten doth specify. ⁸At which time Onias entreated the ambassador that was sent honourably, and received the letters, wherein declaration was made of the league and friendship.

⁹Therefore we also, albeit we need none of these things, for that we have the holy books of scripture in our hands to comfort us, ¹⁰have nevertheless attempted to send unto you for the renewing of brotherhood and friendship, lest we should become strangers unto you altogether: for there is a long time passed since ye sent unto us.

¹¹We therefore at all times without ceasing, both in our feasts, and other convenient days, do remember you in the sacrifices which we offer, and in our prayers, as reason is, and as it becometh us to think upon our brethren: ¹²and we are right glad of your honour.

¹³As for ourselves, we have had great troubles and wars on every side, forso much as the kings that are round about us have fought against us. ¹⁴Howbeit we would not be troublesome unto you, nor to others of our confederates and friends, in these wars: ¹⁵for we have help from heaven that succoureth us, so as we are delivered from our enemies, and our enemies are brought under foot. ¹⁶For this cause we chose Numenius *the son of Antiochus*, and Antipater *the son of Jason*, and sent them unto the Romans, to renew the amity that we had with them, and the former league. ¹⁷We commanded them also to go unto you, and to salute you, and to deliver you our letters concerning the renewing of our brotherhood. ¹⁸Wherefore now ye shall do well to give us an answer thereto.

¹⁹And this is the copy of the letters which Oniases sent. ²⁰Areus king of the Lacedemonians to Onias the high priest, greeting:

²¹It is found in writing, that the Lacedemonians and Jews are brethren, and that they are of the stock of Abraham: ²²now therefore, since this is come to our knowledge, ye shall do well to write unto us of your prosperity. ²³We do write back again to you, that your cattle and goods are our's, and our's are your's. We do command therefore *our ambassadors* to make report unto you on this wise.

²⁴Now when Jonathan heard that Demetrius' princes were come to fight against

Καὶ ἐπορεύθησαν εἰς Ῥώμην, καὶ εἰσῆλθον εἰς τὸ βουλευ- 3
τήριον, καὶ εἶπον, Ἰωνάθαν ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς καὶ τὸ ἔθνος τῶν Ἰου-
δαίων ἀπέστειλεν ἡμᾶς ἀνανεώσασθαι τὴν φιλίαν αὐτοῖς, καὶ τὴν
συμμαχίαν κατὰ τὸ πρότερον. Καὶ ἔδωκαν ἐπιστολάς αὐτοῖς 4
πρὸς αὐτοὺς κατὰ τόπον, ὅπως προπέμπωσιν αὐτοὺς εἰς γῆν
Ἰούδα μετ' εἰρήνης. Καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἀντίγραφον τῶν ἐπιστολῶν 5
ὧν ἔγραψεν Ἰωνάθαν τοῖς Σπαρτιάταις·

Ἰωνάθαν ἀρχιερεὺς, καὶ ἡ γερουσία τοῦ ἔθνους, καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς, 6
καὶ ὁ λοιπὸς δῆμος τῶν Ἰουδαίων, Σπαρτιάταις τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς
χαίρειν.

Ἐτι πρότερον ἀπεστάλησαν ἐπιστολαὶ πρὸς Ὀνίαν τὸν ἀρχιε- 7
ρέα παρὰ Δαρείου τοῦ βασιλεύοντος ἐν ὑμῖν, ὅτι ἐστὲ ἀδελφοὶ
ἡμῶν, ὡς τὸ ἀντίγραφον ὑπόκειται. Καὶ ἐπεδέξατο Ὀνίας τὸν 8
ἄνδρα τὸν ἀπεσταλμένον ἐνδόξως, καὶ ἔλαβε τὰς ἐπιστολάς ἐν
αἷς διεσαφείτο περὶ συμμαχίας καὶ φιλίας.

Καὶ ἡμεῖς οὖν ἀπροσδεεῖς τούτων ὄντες, παράκλησιν ἔχοντες 9
τὰ βιβλία τὰ ἅγια τὰ ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν ἡμῶν, ἐπειράθημεν ἀποστεί- 10
λαι τὴν πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἀδελφότητα καὶ φιλίαν ἀνανεώσασθαι, πρὸς
τὸ μὴ ἐξαλλοτριωθῆναι ὑμῶν· πολλοὶ γὰρ καιροὶ διήλθον ἀφ'
οὗ ἀπεστείλατε πρὸς ἡμᾶς.

Ἡμεῖς οὖν ἐν παντὶ καιρῷ ἀδιαλείπτως ἐν τε ταῖς ἑορταῖς καὶ 11
ταῖς λοιπαῖς καθηκούσαις ἡμέραις μνημονεύομεθα ὑμῶν, ἐφ' ὧν
προσφέρομεν θυσιῶν, καὶ ἐν ταῖς προσευχαῖς, ὡς δέον ἐστὶ
καὶ πρέπον μνημονεύειν ἀδελφῶν. Εὐφραυνόμεθα δὲ ἐπὶ τῇ 12
δόξῃ ὑμῶν.

Ἡμᾶς δὲ ἐκέκλωσαν πολλὰ θλίψεις, καὶ πόλεμοι πολλοὶ, 13
καὶ ἐπολέμησαν ἡμᾶς οἱ βασιλεῖς οἱ κύκλῳ ἡμῶν. Καὶ οὐκ 14
ἠβουλόμεθα οὖν παρενοχλεῖν ὑμῖν, καὶ τοῖς λοιποῖς συμμάχοις,
καὶ φίλοις ἡμῶν, ἐν τοῖς πολέμοις τούτοις. Ἐχομεν γὰρ 15
τὴν ἐξ οὐρανοῦ βοήθειαν βοηθοῦσαν ἡμῖν, καὶ ἐρρύσθημεν
ἀπὸ τῶν ἐχθρῶν ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐταπεινώθησαν οἱ ἐχθροὶ ἡμῶν.
Ἐπελέξαμεν οὖν Νουμήνιον Ἀντιόχου καὶ Ἀντίπατρον 16
Ἰάσωνος, καὶ ἀπεστάλκαμεν πρὸς Ῥωμαίους ἀνανεώσασθαι τὴν
πρὸς αὐτοὺς φιλίαν καὶ συμμαχίαν τὴν προτέραν. Ἐνετειλάμεθα 17
οὖν αὐτοῖς καὶ πρὸς ὑμᾶς πορευθῆναι, καὶ ἀσπάσασθαι ὑμᾶς,
καὶ ἀποδοῦναι ὑμῖν τὰς παρ' ἡμῶν ἐπιστολάς περὶ τῆς ἀνανεώ-
σεως καὶ τῆς ἀδελφότητος ἡμῶν. Καὶ νῦν καλῶς ποιήσετε 18
ἀντιφωνήσαντες ἡμῖν πρὸς ταῦτα.

Καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἀντίγραφον τῶν ἐπιστολῶν ὧν ἀπέστειλεν. 19
Ὀνιάρης βασιλεὺς Σπαρτιατῶν Ὀνία ἱερεῖ μεγάλῳ χαίρειν. 20

Εὐρέθη ἐν γραφῇ περὶ τε τῶν Σπαρτιατῶν καὶ Ἰουδαίων 21
ὅτι εἰσὶν ἀδελφοὶ, καὶ ὅτι εἰσὶν ἐκ γένους Ἀβραάμ. Καὶ 22
νῦν ἀφ' οὗ ἔγνωμεν ταῦτα, καλῶς ποιήσετε γράφοντες ἡμῖν
περὶ τῆς εἰρήνης ὑμῶν. Καὶ ἡμεῖς δὲ ἀντιγράφομεν ὑμῖν, 23
τὰ κτήνῃ ὑμῶν καὶ ἡ ὑπαρξὶς ὑμῶν ἡμῖν ἐστὶ, καὶ τὰ ἡμῶν
ὑμῖν ἐστίν· ἐντελλόμεθα οὖν ὅπως ἀπαγγέλωσιν ὑμῖν κατὰ
ταῦτα.

Καὶ ἤκουσεν Ἰωνάθαν ὅτι ἐπέστρεψαν οἱ ἄρχοντες Δημητρίου 24
μετὰ δυνάμειος πολλῆς ὑπὲρ τὸ πρότερον τοῦ πολεμῆσαι πρὸς

- 25 αὐτόν. Καὶ ἀπῆρren ἐξ Ἱερουσαλήμ, καὶ ἀπῆντησεν αὐτοῖς εἰς τὴν Ἀμαθίτιν χώραν· οὐ γὰρ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἀνοχὴν ἐμβατεῦσαι εἰς τὴν χώραν αὐτοῦ.
- 26 Καὶ ἀπέστειλε κατασκόπους εἰς τὴν παρεμβολὴν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἀπέστρεψαν, καὶ ἀπήγγειλαν αὐτῷ, ὅτι οὕτω τάσσονται ἐπιπεσεῖν
- 27 ἐπ' αὐτοὺς τὴν νύκτα. Ὡς δὲ ἔδυ ὁ ἥλιος, ἐπέταξεν Ἰωνάθαν τοῖς παρ' αὐτοῦ γρηγορεῖν, καὶ εἶναι ἐπὶ τοῖς ὅπλοις, καὶ ἐτοιμάζεσθαι εἰς πόλεμον δι' ὅλης τῆς νυκτός, καὶ ἐξέβαλε προφύλακας κύκλῳ τῆς παρεμβολῆς.
- 28 Καὶ ἤκουσαν οἱ ὑπεναντίοι ὅτι ἡτοιμάσται Ἰωνάθαν καὶ οἱ παρ' αὐτοῦ εἰς πόλεμον, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν καὶ ἔπηξαν τῇ καρδίᾳ
- 29 αὐτῶν, καὶ ἀνέκανσαν πυρὰς ἐν τῇ παρεμβολῇ αὐτῶν. Ἰωνάθαν δὲ καὶ οἱ παρ' αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔγνωσαν ἕως πρωῒ, ἔβλεπον γὰρ τὰ
- 30 φῶτα καιόμενα. Καὶ κατεδίωξεν Ἰωνάθαν ὀπίσω αὐτῶν, καὶ οὐ κατέλαβεν αὐτοὺς, διέβησαν γὰρ τὸν Ἐλεύθερον ποταμόν.
- 31 Καὶ ἐξέκλινεν Ἰωνάθαν ἐπὶ τοὺς Ἀραβας τοὺς καλουμένους Ζαβεδάιους, καὶ ἐπάταξεν αὐτοὺς, καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ σκῦλα αὐτῶν.
- 32 Καὶ ἀναζεύξας ἦλθεν εἰς Δαμασκὸν, καὶ διώδενυσεν ἐν πάσῃ τῇ χώρᾳ.
- 33 Καὶ Σίμων ἐξῆλθε, καὶ διώδενυσεν ἕως Ἀσκάλωνος, καὶ τῶν πλησίων ὀχυρωμάτων, καὶ ἐξέκλινεν εἰς Ἰόππην, καὶ προκατελάβετο αὐτήν.
- 34 Ἦκουσε γὰρ ὅτι βούλονται τὸ ὀχύρωμα παραδοῦναι τοῖς παρὰ Δημητρίου, καὶ ἔθετο ἐκεῖ φρουρὰν ὅπως φυλάσσωσιν αὐτήν.
- 35 Καὶ ἐπέστρεψεν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ ἐξεκκλησίασε τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ ἐβουλεύσατο μετ' αὐτῶν τοῦ οἰκοδομήσαι
- 36 ὀχυρώματα ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, καὶ προσυψῶσαι τὰ τεῖχη Ἱερουσαλήμ, καὶ ὑψῶσαι ὕψος μέγα ἀναμέσον τῆς ἄκρας καὶ τῆς πόλεως, εἰς τὸ διαχωρίζειν αὐτήν τῆς πόλεως, ἵνα ἡ αὕτη κατὰ
- 37 μόνas, ὅπως μήτε ἀγοράζωσι μήτε πωλῶσι. Καὶ συνήχθησαν τοῦ οἰκοδομεῖν τὴν πόλιν, καὶ ἤγγισε τοῦ τείχους τοῦ χειμάρρου τοῦ ἐξ ἀπηλιώτου, καὶ ἐπεσκεύασαν τὸ καλούμενον Χαφεναθά.
- 38 Καὶ Σίμων ὠκοδόμησε τὴν Ἀδιδὰ ἐν τῇ Σεφήλᾳ, καὶ ὠχύρωσε θύρας καὶ μοχλοὺς.
- 39 Καὶ ἐζήτησε Τρύφων βασιλεῦσαι τῆς Ἀσίας, καὶ περιθέσθαι τὸ διάδημα, καὶ ἐκτείνει χεῖρα ἐπὶ Ἀντίοχον τὸν βασιλέα.
- 40 Καὶ ἐφοβήθη μήποτε οὐκ ἑάσῃ αὐτὸν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ μήποτε πολεμῇ πρὸς αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐζήτηι πόρον τοῦ συλλαβεῖν τὸν Ἰωνάθαν τοῦ ἀπολυσαι αὐτὸν, καὶ ἀπάρας ἦλθεν εἰς Βαιθσάν.
- 41 Καὶ ἐξῆλθεν Ἰωνάθαν εἰς ἀπάντησιν αὐτῷ ἐν τεσσαράκοντα χιλιάσιν ἀνδρῶν ἐπιλελεγμέναις εἰς παράταξιν, καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς Βαιθσάν.
- 42 Καὶ εἶδε Τρύφων ὅτι πάρεστιν Ἰωνάθαν μετὰ δυνάμεως πολλ-
- 43 λῆς, καὶ ἐκτείνει χεῖρας ἐπ' αὐτὸν εὐλαβήθη. Καὶ ἐπεδέξατο αὐτὸν ἐνδόξως, καὶ συνέστησεν αὐτὸν πᾶσι τοῖς φίλοις αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ δόματα, καὶ ἐπέταξε ταῖς δυνάμεσιν αὐτοῦ ὑπακούειν αὐτῷ ὡς ἑαυτῷ.
- 44 Καὶ εἶπε τῷ Ἰωνάθαν, ἵνατί ἔκοψας πάντα τὸν λαὸν τοῦτον,
- 45 πολέμου μὴ ἐνεστηκότος ἡμῖν; Καὶ νῦν ἀπόστειλον αὐτοὺς εἰς τοὺς οἴκους αὐτῶν, ἐπιλεξαι δὲ σεαυτῷ ἄνδρας ὀλίγους οἵτινες ἔσονται μετὰ σοῦ, καὶ δεῦρο μετ' ἐμοῦ εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα, καὶ παραδώσω σοι αὐτήν καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ ὀχυρώματα καὶ τὰς δυνάμεις

him with a greater host than afore, ²⁵ he removed from Jerusalem, and met them in the land of Amathis: for he gave them no respite to enter his country.

²⁶ He sent spies also unto their tents, who came again, and told him that they were appointed to come upon them in the night season. ²⁷ Wherefore so soon as the sun was down, Jonathan commanded his men to watch, and to be in arms, that all the night long they might be ready to fight: also he sent forth centinels round about the host.

²⁸ But when the adversaries heard that Jonathan and his men were ready for battle, they feared, and trembled in their hearts, and they kindled fires in their camp. ²⁹ Howbeit Jonathan and his company knew it not till the morning: for they saw the lights burning. ³⁰ Then Jonathan pursued after them, but overtook them not: for they were gone over the river Eleutherus. ³¹ Wherefore Jonathan turned to the Arabians, who were called Zabadeans, and smote them, and took their spoils. ³² And removing thence, he came to Damascus, and so passed through all the country.

³³ Simon also went forth, and passed through the country unto Ascalon, and the holds there adjoining, from whence he turned aside to Joppe, and won it. ³⁴ For he had heard that they would deliver the hold unto them that took Demetrius' part: wherefore he set a garrison there to keep it.

³⁵ After this came Jonathan home again, and calling the elders of the people together, he consulted with them about building strong holds in Judea, ³⁶ and making the walls of Jerusalem higher, and raising a great mount between the tower and the city, for to separate it from the city, that so it might be alone, that men might neither sell nor buy in it. ³⁷ Upon this they came together to build up the city, forasmuch as *part* of the wall toward the brook on the east side was fallen down, and they repaired that which was called Capphenatha. ³⁸ Simon also set up Adida in Sephela, and made it strong with gates and bars.

³⁹ Now Tryphon went about to get the kingdom of Asia, and to kill Antiochus the king, that he might set the crown upon his own head. ⁴⁰ Howbeit he was afraid that Jonathan would not suffer him, and that he would fight against him; wherefore he sought a way how to take Jonathan, that he might kill him. So he removed, and came to Bethsan.

⁴¹ Then Jonathan went out to meet him with forty thousand men chosen for the battle, and came to Bethsan.

⁴² Now when Tryphon saw that Jonathan came with so great a force, he durst not stretch his hand against him; ⁴³ but received him honourably, and commended him unto all his friends, and gave him gifts, and commanded his men of war to be as obedient unto him, as to himself.

⁴⁴ Unto Jonathan also he said, Why hast thou put all this people to so great trouble, seeing there is no war betwixt us? ⁴⁵ Therefore send them now home again, and choose a few men to wait on thee, and come thou with me to Ptolemais, for I will give it thee, and the rest of the strong holds and forces,

and all that have any charge: as for me, I will return and depart: for this is the cause of my coming.

⁴⁶ So Jonathan believing him did as he bade him, and sent away his host, who went into the land of Judea. ⁴⁷ And with himself he retained but three thousand men, of whom he sent two thousand into Galilee, and one thousand went with him.

⁴⁸ Now as soon as Jonathan entered into Ptolemais, they of Ptolemais shut the gates, and took him, and all them that came with him they slew with the sword. ⁴⁹ Then sent Tryphon an host of footmen and horsemen into Galilee, and into the great plain, to destroy all Jonathan's company. ⁵⁰ But when they knew that Jonathan and they that were with him were taken and slain, they encouraged one another, and went close together, prepared to fight.

⁵¹ They therefore that followed upon them, perceiving that they were ready to fight for their lives, turned back again. ⁵² Whereupon they all came into the land of Judea peaceably, and there they bewailed Jonathan, and them that were with him, and they were sore afraid; wherefore all Israel made great lamentation.

⁵³ Then all the heathen that were round about them sought to destroy them: for said they, They have no captain, nor any to help them: now therefore let us make war upon them, and take away their memorial from among men.

Now when Simon heard that Tryphon had gathered together a great host to invade the land of Judea, and destroy it, ² and saw that the people was in great trembling and fear, he went up to Jerusalem, and gathered the people together, ³ and gave them exhortation, saying, Ye yourselves know what great things I, and my brethren, and my father's house, have done for the laws and the sanctuary, the battles also and troubles which we have seen, ⁴ by reason whereof all my brethren are slain for Israel's sake, and I am left alone.

⁵ Now therefore be it far from me, that I should spare mine own life in any time of trouble: for I am no better than my brethren. ⁶ Doubtless I will avenge my nation, and the sanctuary, and our wives, and our children: for all the heathen are gathered to destroy us of very malice.

⁷ Now as soon as the people heard these words, their spirit revived. ⁸ And they answered with a loud voice, saying, Thou shalt be our leader instead of Judas and Jonathan thy brother. ⁹ Fight thou our battles, and whatsoever thou commandest us, that will we do.

¹⁰ So then he gathered together all the men of war, and made haste to finish the walls of Jerusalem, and he fortified it round about. ¹¹ Also he sent Jonathan the son of Absalom, and with him a great power, to Joppe: who casting out them that were therein remained there in it.

¹² So Tryphon removed from Ptolemais with a great power to invade the land of Judea, and Jonathan was with him in ward.

¹³ But Simon pitched his tents at Adida, over against the plain.

¹⁴ Now when Tryphon knew that Simon

τὰς λοιπὰς καὶ πάντας τοὺς ἐπὶ τῶν χειρῶν, καὶ ἐπιστρέψας ἀπελεύσομαι, τούτου γὰρ χάριν πάρεμι.

Καὶ ἐμπιστεύσας αὐτῷ ἐποίησε καθὼς εἶπε, καὶ ἐξαπέστειλε τὰς δυνάμεις, καὶ ἀπῆλθον εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα. Κατέλιπε δὲ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἄνδρας τρισχιλίους, ὧν δισχιλίους ἀφήκεν ἐν τῇ Γαλιλαίᾳ, χίλιοι δὲ συνῆλθον αὐτῷ.

Ὡς δὲ εἰσῆλθεν Ἰωνάθαν εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα, ἀπέκλεισαν οἱ Πτολεμαεῖς τὰς πύλας, καὶ συνέλαβον αὐτὸν, καὶ πάντας τοὺς εἰσελθόντας μετ' αὐτοῦ ἀπέκτειναν ἐν ῥομφαίᾳ. Καὶ ἀπέστειλε Τρύφων δυνάμεις, καὶ ἵππον εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, καὶ τὸ πεδῖον τὸ μέγα, τοῦ ἀπολέσαι πάντας τοὺς παρὰ Ἰωνάθαν. Καὶ ἐπέγνωσαν ὅτι συνελήφθη Ἰωνάθαν καὶ ἀπόλωλε, καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ παρεκάλεσαν ἑαυτοὺς, καὶ ἐπορεύοντο συνεστραμμένοι ἕτοιμοι εἰς πόλεμον.

Καὶ ἶδον οἱ διώκοντες ὅτι περὶ ψυχῆς αὐτοῖς ἐστι, καὶ ἐπείστυον. Καὶ ἦλθον πάντες μετ' εἰρήνης εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα, καὶ ἐπένησαν τὸν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ τοὺς μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν σφόδρα, καὶ ἐπένησε πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ πένθος μέγα.

Καὶ ἐζήτησαν πάντα τὰ ἔθνη τὰ κύκλῳ αὐτῶν ἐκτρίψαι αὐτούς· εἶπαν γὰρ, οὐκ ἔχουσιν ἄρχοντα καὶ βοηθοῦντα· νῦν οὖν πολεμήσωμεν αὐτούς, καὶ ἐξάρωμεν ἐξ ἀνθρώπων τὸ μνημόσυνον αὐτῶν.

Καὶ ἤκουσε Σίμων ὅτι συνήγαγε Τρύφων δύναμιν πολλὴν τοῦ ἐλθεῖν εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα, καὶ ἐκτρίψαι αὐτήν. Καὶ εἶδε τὸν λαὸν ὅτι ἐστὶν ἔντρομος, καὶ ἐμφοβος, καὶ ἀνέβη εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ἠθροισε τὸν λαόν. Καὶ παρεκάλεσεν αὐτούς, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, αὐτοὶ οἶδατε ὅσα ἐγὼ, καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοί μου, καὶ ὁ οἶκος τοῦ πατρός μου, ἐποιήσαμεν περὶ τῶν νόμων, καὶ τῶν ἀγίων, καὶ τοὺς πολέμους, καὶ τὰς στενοχωρίας ἃς εἶδομεν. Τούτου χάριν ἀπώλοντο οἱ ἀδελφοί μου πάντες χάριν τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ κατελείφθη ἐγὼ μόνος.

Καὶ νῦν μή μοι γένοιτο φείσασθαι μου τῆς ψυχῆς ἐν παντὶ καιρῷ θλίψεως, οὐ γὰρ εἰμι κρείσσων τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου. Πλὴν ἐκδικήσω περὶ τοῦ ἔθνους μου, καὶ περὶ τῶν ἀγίων, καὶ περὶ τῶν γυναικῶν καὶ τῶν τέκνων ἡμῶν, ὅτι συνήχθησαν πάντα τὰ ἔθνη ἐκτρίψαι ἡμᾶς ἔχθρας χάριν.

Καὶ ἀνέζωοπύρησε τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ λαοῦ ἅμα τῷ ἀκοῦσαι τῶν λόγων τούτων, καὶ ἀπεκρίθησαν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ, λέγοντες, σὺ εἶ ἡμῶν ἡγούμενος ἀντὶ Ἰούδα, καὶ Ἰωνάθαν τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ σου. Πολέμησον τὸν πόλεμον ἡμῶν, καὶ πάντα ὅσα ἂν εἴπῃς ἡμῖν, ποιήσομεν.

Καὶ συνήγαγε πάντας τοὺς ἄνδρας τοὺς πολεμιστὰς, καὶ ἐτάχυνε τοῦ τελέσαι τὰ τείχη Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ ὠχύρωσεν αὐτὴν κυκλόθεν. Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν Ἰωνάθαν τὸν τοῦ Ἀβεσσαλώμου καὶ μετ' αὐτοῦ δύναμιν ἱκανὴν εἰς Ἰόππην, καὶ ἐξέβαλε τοὺς ὄντας ἐν αὐτῇ, καὶ ἔμεινεν ἐκεῖ ἐν αὐτῇ.

Καὶ ἀπῆρε Τρύφων ἀπὸ Πτολεμαίδος μετὰ δυνάμεως πολλῆς εἰσελθεῖν εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα, καὶ Ἰωνάθαν μετ' αὐτοῦ ἐν φυλακῇ. Σίμων δὲ παρενέβαλεν ἐν Ἀδιδά κατὰ πρόσωπον τοῦ πεδίου.

Καὶ ἐπέγνω Τρύφων ὅτι ἀνέστη Σίμων ἀντὶ Ἰωνάθαν τοῦ

- ἀδελφοῦ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὅτι συνάπτειν αὐτῷ μέλλει πόλεμον, καὶ
 15 ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτὸν πρέσβεις, λέγων, περὶ ἀργυρίου οὐ
 ὧφειλεν Ἰωνάθαν ὁ ἀδελφός σου εἰς τὸ βασιλικὸν δι' ἃς εἶχε
 16 χρείας συνέχονεν αὐτόν. Καὶ νῦν ἀπόστειλον ἀργυρίου τάλαντα
 ἑκατὸν, καὶ δύο τῶν υἱῶν αὐτοῦ ὄμηρα, ὅπως μὴ ἀφεθεῖς ἀπο-
 στατήσῃ ἀφ' ἡμῶν, καὶ ἀφήσομεν αὐτόν.
 17 Καὶ ἔγνω Σίμων ὅτι δόλῳ λαλοῦσι πρὸς αὐτόν, καὶ πέμπει
 τὸ ἀργύριον, καὶ τὰ παιδάρια, μήποτε ἔχθραν ἄρῃ μεγάλην πρὸς
 18 τὸν λαόν, λέγων, ὅτι οὐκ ἀπέστειλα αὐτῷ τὸ ἀργύριον καὶ τὰ
 19 παιδάρια, καὶ ἀπώλετο. Καὶ ἀπέστειλε τὰ παιδάρια, καὶ τὰ
 ἑκατὸν τάλαντα· καὶ διεψεύσατο, καὶ οὐκ ἀφήκε τὸν Ἰωνάθαν.
 20 Καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα ἦλθε Τρύφων τοῦ ἐμβατεῦσαι εἰς τὴν
 χώραν, καὶ ἐκτρίψαι αὐτήν, καὶ ἐκύκλωσεν ὁδὸν τὴν εἰς Ἀδωρα·
 καὶ Σίμων καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ ἀντιπαρήγεν αὐτῷ εἰς πάντα
 τόπον οὗ ἂν ἐπορεύετο.
 21 Οἱ δὲ ἐκ τῆς ἄκρας ἀπέστελλον πρὸς Τρύφωνα πρεσβευτὰς
 κατασπεύδοντας αὐτόν τοῦ ἐλθεῖν πρὸς αὐτοὺς διὰ τῆς ἐρήμου,
 22 καὶ ἀποστέλλαι αὐτοῖς τροφάς. Καὶ ἡτοίμασε Τρύφων πᾶσαν
 τὴν ἵππον αὐτοῦ ἐλθεῖν ἐν τῇ νυκτὶ ἐκείνῃ· καὶ ἦν χιὼν πολλή
 σφόδρα, καὶ οὐκ ἦλθε διὰ τὴν χιόνα, καὶ ἀπῆρε, καὶ ἦλθεν εἰς
 23 τὴν Γαλααδίτιν. Ὡς δὲ ἤγγισε τῇ Βασκαμᾷ, ἀπέκτεινε τὸν
 24 Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ ἐτάφη ἐκεῖ. Καὶ ἐπέστρεψε Τρύφων, καὶ ἀπῆλ-
 θεν εἰς τὴν γῆν αὐτοῦ.
 25 Καὶ ἀπέστειλε Σίμων, καὶ ἔλαβε τὰ ὀστᾶ Ἰωνάθαν τοῦ
 ἀδελφοῦ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔθαψεν αὐτὰ ἐν Μωδεὶν πόλει τῶν πατέρων
 26 αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐκόψαντο αὐτὸν πᾶς Ἰσραὴλ κοπετὸν μέγαν, καὶ
 ἐπένθησαν αὐτὸν ἡμέρας πολλάς.
 27 Καὶ ὠκοδόμησε Σίμων ἐπὶ τὸν τάφον τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ καὶ
 τῶν ἀδελφῶν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὕψωσεν αὐτόν τῇ ὁράσει λίθῳ ξεστῷ
 28 ἐκ τῶν ὀπισθεν καὶ ἐκ τῶν ἔμπροσθεν. Καὶ ἔστησεν ἐπ' αὐτὰ
 ἑπτὰ πυραμίδας, μίαν κατέναντι τῆς μιᾶς, τῷ πατρὶ καὶ τῇ
 29 μητρὶ καὶ τοῖς τέσσαρσιν ἀδελφοῖς. Καὶ ταύταις ἐποίησε μη-
 χανήματα, περιθεῖς στύλους μεγάλους, καὶ ἐποίησεν ἐπὶ τοῖς
 στύλοις πανοπλίας εἰς ὄνομα αἰώνιον, καὶ παρὰ ταῖς πανοπλίαις
 πλοῖα ἐπιγεγλυμμένα, εἰς τὸ θεωρεῖσθαι ὑπὸ πάντων τῶν
 30 πλεόντων τὴν θάλασσαν. Οὗτος ὁ τάφος ὃν ἐποίησεν ἐν
 Μωδεὶν, ἕως τῆς ἡμέρας ταύτης.
 31 Ὁ δὲ Τρύφων ἐπορεύετο δόλῳ μετὰ Ἀντιόχου τοῦ βασιλέως
 32 τοῦ νεωτέρου, καὶ ἀπέκτεινεν αὐτόν, καὶ ἐβασίλευσεν αὐτῷ
 αὐτοῦ, καὶ περιέθετο διάδημα τῆς Ἀσίας, καὶ ἐποίησε πληγὴν
 μεγάλην ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς.
 33 Καὶ ὠκοδόμησε Σίμων τὰ ὀχυρώματα τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ
 περιετείχισε πύργοις ὑψηλοῖς, καὶ τείχεσι μεγάλοις, καὶ πύλαις,
 34 καὶ μοχλοῖς, καὶ ἔθετο βρώματα ἐν τοῖς ὀχυρώμασι. Καὶ
 ἐπέλεξε Σίμων ἄνδρας, καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς Δημήτριον τὸν
 βασιλέα τοῦ ποιῆσαι ἄφεςιν τῇ χώρᾳ, ὅτι πᾶσαι αἱ πράξεις
 Τρύφωνος ἦσαν ἀρπαγαί.
 35 Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτῷ Δημήτριος ὁ βασιλεὺς κατὰ τοὺς
 λόγους τούτους· καὶ ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ, καὶ ἔγραψεν αὐτῷ ἐπιστο-
 36 λὴν τοιαύτην· Βασιλεὺς Δημήτριος Σίμονι ἀρχιερεὶ καὶ φίλῳ

was risen up instead of his brother Jonathan, and meant to join battle with him; he sent messengers unto him, saying, ¹⁵Whereas we have Jonathan thy brother in hold, it is for money that he is owing unto the king's treasure, concerning the business that was committed unto him. ¹⁶Wherefore now send an hundred talents of silver, and two of his sons for hostages, that when he is at liberty he may not revolt from us, and we will let him go.

¹⁷Hereupon Simon, albeit he perceived that they spake deceitfully unto him, yet sent he the money and the children, lest peradventure he should procure to himself great hatred of the people: ¹⁸who might have said, Because I sent him not the money and the children, therefore is Jonathan dead. ¹⁹So he sent them the children and the hundred talents: howbeit Tryphon dissembled, neither would he let Jonathan go.

²⁰And after this came Tryphon to invade the land, and destroy it, going round about by the way that leadeth unto Adora: but Simon and his host marched against him in every place, wheresoever he went.

²¹Now they that were in the tower sent messengers unto Tryphon, to the end that he should hasten his coming unto them by the wilderness, and send them victuals. ²²Wherefore Tryphon made ready all his horsemen to come that night: but there fell a very great snow, by reason whereof he came not. So he departed, and came into the country of Galaad. ²³And when he came near to Bascama, he slew Jonathan, who was buried there. ²⁴Afterward Tryphon returned and went into his own land.

²⁵Then sent Simon, and took the bones of Jonathan his brother, and buried them in Modin, the city of his fathers. ²⁶And all Israel made great lamentation for him, and bewailed him many days.

²⁷Simon also built a monument upon the sepulchre of his father and his brethren, and raised it aloft to the sight, with hewn stone behind and before. ²⁸Moreover he set up seven pyramids, one against another, for his father, and his mother, and his four brethren. ²⁹And in these he made cunning devices, about the which he set great pillars, and upon the pillars he made all their armour for a perpetual memory, and by the armour ships carved, that they might be seen of all that sail on the sea. ³⁰This is the sepulchre which he made at Modin, and it standeth yet unto this day.

³¹Now Tryphon dealt deceitfully with the young king Antiochus, and slew him. ³²And he reigned in his stead, and crowned himself king of Asia, and brought a great calamity upon the land.

³³Then Simon built up the strong holds in Judea, and fenced them about with high towers, and great walls, and gates, and bars, and laid up victuals therein. ³⁴Moreover Simon chose men, and sent to king Demetrius, to the end he should give the land an immunity, because all that Tryphon did was to spoil.

³⁵Unto whom king Demetrius answered and wrote after this manner: ³⁶King Demetrius unto Simon the high priest, and

friend of kings, as also unto the elders and nation of the Jews, sendeth greeting: ³⁷The golden crown, and the scarlet robe, which ye sent unto us, we have received: and we are ready to make a stedfast peace with you, yea, and to write unto our officers, to confirm the immunities which we have granted. ³⁸And whatsoever covenants we have made with you shall stand; and the strong holds, which ye have builded, shall be your own. ³⁹As for any oversight or fault committed unto this day, we forgive it, and the crown tax also, which ye owe us: and if there were any other tribute paid in Jerusalem, it shall no more be paid. ⁴⁰And look who are meet among you to be in our court, let them be enrolled, and let there be peace betwixt us.

⁴¹Thus the yoke of the heathen was taken away from Israel in the hundred and seventieth year. ⁴²Then the people of Israel began to write in their instruments and contracts, In the first year of Simon the high priest, the governor and leader of the Jews.

⁴³In those days Simon camped against Gaza, and besieged it round about; he made also an engine of war, and set it by the city, and battered a certain tower, and took it. ⁴⁴And they that were in the engine leaped into the city; whereupon there was a great uproar in the city: ⁴⁵insomuch as the people of the city rent their clothes, and climbed upon the walls with their wives and children, and cried with a loud voice, beseeching Simon to grant them peace. ⁴⁶And they said, Deal not with us according to our wickedness, but according to thy mercy.

⁴⁷So Simon was appeased toward them, and fought no more against them, but put them out of the city, and cleansed the houses wherein the idols were, and so entered into it with songs and thanksgiving. ⁴⁸Yea, he put all uncleanness out of it, and placed such men there as would keep the law, and made it stronger than it was before, and built therein a dwelling place for himself.

⁴⁹They also of the tower in Jerusalem were kept so strait, that they could neither come forth, nor go into the country, nor buy, nor sell: wherefore they were in great distress for want of victuals, and a great number of them perished through famine. ⁵⁰Then cried they to Simon, beseeching him to be at one with them: which thing he granted them; and when he had put them out from thence, he cleansed the tower from pollutions; ⁵¹and entered into it the three and twentieth day of the second month, in the hundred seventy and first year, with thanksgiving, and branches of palm trees, and with harps, and cymbals, and with viols, and hymns, and songs: because there was destroyed a great enemy out of Israel.

⁵²He ordained also that that day should be kept every year with gladness. Moreover the hill of the temple that was by the tower he made stronger than it was, and there he dwelt himself with his company. ⁵³And when Simon saw that John his son was a valiant man, he made him captain of all the hosts; and he dwelt in Gazara.

Now in the hundred threescore and twelfth year king Demetrius gathered his forces together, and went into Media, to get him help to fight against Tryphon.

βασιλέων, καὶ πρεσβυτέροις, καὶ ἔθνεϊ Ἰουδαίων χαίρειν. Τὸν ³⁷στέφανον τὸν χρυσοῦν, καὶ τὴν βαϊνὴν ἣν ἀπεστείλατε, κεκομίσμεθα, καὶ ἔτοιμοί ἐσμεν τοῦ ποιεῖν ὑμῖν εἰρήνην μεγάλην, καὶ γράφειν τοῖς ἐπὶ τῶν χρειῶν τοῦ ἀφιέναι ὑμῖν ἀφέματα. Καὶ ὅσα ἐστήκαμεν πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἐστηκε, καὶ τὰ ὀχυρώματα ἃ ³⁸ὠκοδομήκατε ὑπαρχέτω ὑμῖν. Ἀφίεμεν δὲ ἀγνοήματα καὶ τὰ ³⁹ἁμαρτήματα ἕως τῆς σήμερον ἡμέρας, καὶ τὸν στέφανον ὃν ὠφέειλετε, καὶ εἴ τι ἄλλο ἐτελωνεῖτο ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, μηκέτι τελωνεῖσθω. Καὶ εἴ τινες ἐπιτήδειοι ὑμῶν γραφῆναι εἰς τοὺς ⁴⁰περὶ ἡμᾶς, ἐγγραφέσθωσαν, καὶ γινέσθω ἀναμέσον ἡμῶν εἰρήνη.

Ἔτους ἑβδομηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ ἦρθη ὁ ζυγὸς τῶν ἐθνῶν ⁴¹ἀπὸ τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ ἤρξατο ὁ λαὸς Ἰσραὴλ γράφειν ἐν ταῖς ⁴²συγγραφαῖς καὶ συναλλάγμασιν, ἔτους πρώτου ἐπὶ Σίμωνος ἀρχιερέως μεγάλου καὶ στρατηγοῦ καὶ ἡγουμένου Ἰουδαίων.

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις παρενέβαλε Σίμων ἐπὶ Γάζαν, καὶ ⁴³ἐκύκλωσεν αὐτὴν παρεμβολαῖς, καὶ ἐποίησεν ἐλεπόλεις καὶ προσήγαγε τῇ πόλει, καὶ ἐπάταξε πύργον ἓνα καὶ κατελάβετο. Καὶ ἐξήλλοντο οἱ ἐν τῇ ἐλεπόλει εἰς τὴν πόλιν, καὶ ἐγένετο ⁴⁴κίνημα μέγα ἐν τῇ πόλει. Καὶ ἀνέβησαν οἱ ἐν τῇ πόλει σὺν ⁴⁵ταῖς γυναῖξιν καὶ τοῖς τέκνοις ἐπὶ τὸ τεῖχος διερρήχοντες τὰ ἱμάτια αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐβόησαν φωνῇ μεγάλῃ ἀξιοῦντες Σίμωνα δεξιὰς αὐτοῖς δοῦναι, καὶ εἶπον, μὴ ἡμῖν χρῆσις κατὰ τὰς πονηρίας ⁴⁶ἡμῶν, ἀλλὰ κατὰ τὸ ἔλεός σου.

Καὶ συνελύθη Σίμων αὐτοῖς, καὶ οὐκ ἐπολέμησεν αὐτούς· ⁴⁷καὶ ἐξέβαλεν αὐτοὺς ἐκ τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ἐκαθάρισε τὰς οἰκίας ἐν αἷς ἦν τὰ εἰδῶλα, καὶ οὕτως εἰσῆλθεν εἰς αὐτὴν ὑμῶν καὶ εὐλογῶν. Καὶ ἐξέβαλεν ἐξ αὐτῆς πᾶσαν ἀκαθαρσίαν, καὶ ⁴⁸κατῴκισεν ἐκεῖ ἄνδρας οἵτινες τὸν νόμον ποιοῦσι, καὶ προσωχύρῳσεν αὐτὴν, καὶ ὠκοδόμησεν ἑαυτῷ ἐν αὐτῇ οἰκισιν.

Οἱ δὲ ἐκ τῆς ἄκρας ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ ἐκωλύοντο ἐκπορεύεσθαι ⁴⁹καὶ εἰσπορεύεσθαι εἰς τὴν χώραν, καὶ ἀγοράζειν καὶ πωλεῖν, καὶ ἐπέινασαν σφόδρα, καὶ ἀπώλοντο ἐξ αὐτῶν ἱκανοὶ τῇ λιμῇ. Καὶ ἐβόησαν πρὸς Σίμωνα δεξιὰς λαβεῖν, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς, ⁵⁰καὶ ἐξέβαλεν αὐτοὺς ἐκείθεν, καὶ ἐκαθάρισε τὴν ἄκραν ἀπὸ τῶν μiasμάτων. Καὶ εἰσῆλθεν εἰς αὐτὴν τῇ τρίτῃ καὶ εἰκάδι τοῦ ⁵¹δευτέρου μηνὸς ἔτους ἐνὸς καὶ ἑβδομηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ μετὰ αἰνέσεως καὶ βαίων, καὶ ἐν κινύραις, καὶ ἐν κυμβάλοις, καὶ ἐν νάβλαις, καὶ ἐν ὕμνοις, καὶ ἐν ψδαῖς, ὅτι συνετρίβη ἐχθρὸς μέγας ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ.

Καὶ ἔστησε κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν τοῦ ἁγίου τὴν ἡμέραν ταύτην μετ' ⁵²εὐφροσύνης· καὶ προσωχύρῳσε τὸ ὄρος τοῦ ἱεροῦ τὸ παρὰ τὴν ἄκραν, καὶ ᾤκει ἐκεῖ αὐτὸς καὶ οἱ παρ' αὐτοῦ. Καὶ εἶδε Σίμων ⁵³τὸν Ἰωάννην υἱὸν αὐτοῦ, ὅτι ἀνὴρ ἐστι, καὶ ἔθετο αὐτὸν ἡγούμενον τῶν δυνάμεων πασῶν, καὶ ᾤκει ἐν Γαζάροις.

Καὶ ἐν ἔτει δευτέρῳ καὶ ἑβδομηκοστῷ καὶ ἑκατοστῷ συνή- ¹⁴γαγε Δημήτριος ὁ βασιλεὺς τὰς δυνάμεις αὐτοῦ· καὶ ἐπορεύθη εἰς Μήδειαν τοῦ ἐπισπάσασθαι βοήθειαν αὐτῷ, ὅπως πολεμήσῃ τὸν Τρύφωνα.

- 2 Καὶ ἤκουσεν Ἀρσάκης ὁ βασιλεὺς τῆς Περσίδος καὶ Μηδείας ὅτι ἦλθε Δημήτριος εἰς τὰ ὄρια αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ἓνα τῶν
3 ἀρχόντων αὐτοῦ συλλαβεῖν αὐτὸν ζῶντα. Καὶ ἐπορεύθη καὶ ἐπάταξε τὴν παρεμβολὴν Δημητρίου, καὶ συνέλαβεν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν πρὸς Ἀρσάκην, καὶ ἔθετο αὐτὸν ἐν φυλακῇ.
- 4 Καὶ ἡσύχασεν ἡ γῆ Ἰουδα πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας Σίμωνος· καὶ ἐζήτησεν ἀγαθὰ τῷ ἔθνει αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἤρρεσεν αὐτοῖς ἡ ἐξουσία
5 αὐτοῦ καὶ ἡ δόξα αὐτοῦ πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας. Καὶ μετὰ πάσης τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ ἔλαβε τὴν Ἰόππην εἰς λιμένα, καὶ ἐποίησεν
6 εἰσοδὸν ταῖς νήσοις τῆς θαλάσσης. Καὶ ἐπλάτυνε τὰ ὄρια τῷ
7 ἔθνει αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐκράτησε τῆς χώρας. Καὶ συνήγαγεν αἰχμαλωσίαν πολλήν, καὶ ἐκυρίευσεν Γαζαρῶν καὶ Βαιθσούρων καὶ τῆς ἄκρας· καὶ ἐξῆρε τὰς ἀκαθαρσίας ἐξ αὐτῆς, καὶ οὐκ ἦν ὁ ἀντικείμενος αὐτῷ.
- 8 Καὶ ἦσαν γεωργοῦντες τὴν γῆν αὐτῶν μετ' εἰρήνης, καὶ ἡ γῆ ἐδίδου τὰ γεννήματα αὐτῆς, καὶ τὰ ξύλα τῶν πεδίων τὸν καρπὸν
9 αὐτῶν. Πρεσβύτεροι ἐν ταῖς πλατείαις ἐκάθηντο, πάντες περὶ ἀγαθῶν ἐκοινολογοῦντο, καὶ οἱ νεανίσκοι ἐνεδύσαντο δόξας καὶ
10 στολὰς πολέμου. Ταῖς πόλεσιν ἐχορήγησε βρώματα, καὶ ἔταξεν αὐτὰς ἐν σκεύεσιν ὀχυρώσεως, ἕως ὅτου ὠνομάσθη τὸ ὄνομα τῆς δόξης αὐτοῦ ἕως ἄκρου τῆς γῆς.
- 11 Ἐποίησε τὴν εἰρήνην ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ εὐφράνθη Ἰσραὴλ
12 εὐφροσύνην μεγάλην. Καὶ ἐκάθισεν ἕκαστος ὑπὸ τὴν ἄμπελον αὐτοῦ καὶ τὴν συκὴν αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐκ ἦν ὁ ἐκφοβῶν αὐτούς.
- 13 Καὶ ἐξέλιπεν ὁ πολεμῶν αὐτοὺς ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ οἱ βασιλεῖς
14 συνετρίβησαν ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις. Καὶ ἐστήρισε πάντας τοὺς ταπεινοὺς τοῦ λαοῦ αὐτοῦ· τὸν νόμον ἐξεζήτησε, καὶ ἐξῆρε
15 πάντα ἄνομον καὶ πονηρόν. Τὰ ἅγια ἐδόξασε, καὶ ἐπλήθυνε τὰ σκεύη τῶν ἁγίων.
- 16 Καὶ ἠκούσθη ἐν Ῥώμῃ ὅτι ἀπέθανεν Ἰωνάθαν, καὶ ἕως
17 Σπάρτης, καὶ ἐλυπήθησαν σφόδρα. Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσαν ὅτι Σίμων ὁ ἀδελφὸς αὐτοῦ γέγονεν ἀντ' αὐτοῦ ἀρχιερεὺς, καὶ ἐπικρατεῖ
18 τῆς χώρας καὶ τῶν πόλεων τῶν ἐν αὐτῇ. Ἐγραψαν πρὸς αὐτὸν δέλτοις χαλκαῖς, τοῦ ἀνανεώσασθαι πρὸς αὐτὸν φιλίαν καὶ τὴν
19 συμμαχίαν ἣν ἔστησαν πρὸς Ἰούδαν καὶ Ἰωνάθαν τοὺς ἀδελφούς αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἀνεγνώσθησαν ἐνώπιον τῆς ἐκκλησίας ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ.
- 20 Καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἀντίγραφον τῶν ἐπιστολῶν ὧν ἀπέστειλαν οἱ Σπαρτιάται· Σπαρτιατῶν ἄρχοντες καὶ ἡ πόλις Σίμωνι ἱερεὶ
21 μέγῳ, καὶ τοῖς πρεσβυτέροις, καὶ τοῖς ἱερεῦσι, καὶ τῷ λοιπῷ δήμῳ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἀδελφοῖς χαίρειν. Οἱ πρεσβεύται οἱ ἀποσταλέντες πρὸς τὸν δῆμον ἡμῶν ἀπήγγειλαν ἡμῖν περὶ τῆς δόξης ὑμῶν καὶ τιμῆς, καὶ εὐφράνθημεν ἐπὶ τῇ ἐφόδῳ αὐτῶν.
- 22 Καὶ ἀνεγράψαμεν τὰ ὑπ' αὐτῶν εἰρημένα ἐν ταῖς βουλαῖς τοῦ δῆμου οὕτως, Νουμήνιος Ἀντιόχου καὶ Ἀντίπατρος Ἰάσωνος πρεσβεύται Ἰουδαίων ἤλθοσαν πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἀνανεούμενοι τὴν πρὸς ἡμᾶς φιλίαν.
- 23 Καὶ ἤρρεσε τῷ δήμῳ ἐπιδέξασθαι τοὺς ἄνδρας ἐνδόξως, καὶ τοῦ θέσθαι τὸ ἀντίγραφον τῶν λόγων αὐτῶν ἐν τοῖς ἀποδεδειγμένοις τοῦ δῆμου βιβλίοις, τοῦ ἔχειν μνημόσυνον τὸν δῆμον τῶν Σπαρτιατῶν· τὸ δὲ ἀντίγραφον τούτων ἐγράψαμεν Σίμωνι τῷ ἀρχιερεῖ.

² But when Arsaces, the king of Persia and Media, heard that Demetrius was entered within his borders, he sent one of his princes to take him alive: ³ who went and smote the host of Demetrius, and took him, and brought him to Arsaces, by whom he was put in ward.

⁴ As for the land of Judea, that was quiet all the days of Simon; for he sought the good of his nation in such wise, as that evermore his authority and honour pleased them well. ⁵ And as he was honourable in all his acts, so in this, that he took Joppe for an haven, and made an entrance to the isles of the sea, ⁶ and enlarged the bounds of his nation, and recovered the country, ⁷ and gathered together a great number of captives, and had the dominion of Gazara, and Bethsura, and the tower, out of the which he took all uncleanness, neither was there any that resisted him.

⁸ Then did they till their ground in peace, and the earth gave her increase, and the trees of the field their fruit. ⁹ The ancient men sat all in the streets, communing together of good things, and the young men put on glorious and warlike apparel. ¹⁰ He provided victuals for the cities, and set in them all manner of munition, so that his honourable name was renowned unto the end of the world.

¹¹ He made peace in the land, and Israel rejoiced with great joy: ¹² for every man sat under his vine and his fig tree, and there was none to fray them: ¹³ neither was there any left in the land to fight against them: yea, the kings themselves were overthrown in those days. ¹⁴ Moreover he strengthened all those of his people that were brought low: the law he searched out; and every contemner of the law and wicked person he took away. ¹⁵ He beautified the sanctuary, and multiplied the vessels of the temple.

¹⁶ Now when it was heard at Rome, and as far as Sparta, that Jonathan was dead, they were very sorry. ¹⁷ But as soon as they heard that his brother Simon was made high priest in his stead, and ruled the country, and the cities therein: ¹⁸ they wrote unto him in tables of brass, to renew the friendship and league which they had made with Judas and Jonathan his brethren: ¹⁹ which writings were read before the congregation at Jerusalem.

²⁰ And this is the copy of the letters that the Lacedemonians sent; The rulers of the Lacedemonians, with the city, unto Simon the high priest, and the elders, and priests, and residue of the people of the Jews, our brethren, *send greeting*: ²¹ The ambassadors that were sent unto our people certified us of your glory and honour: wherefore we were glad of their coming, ²² and did register the things that they spake in the council of the people in this manner; Numenius son of Antiochus, and Antipater son of Jason, the Jews' ambassadors, came unto us, to renew the friendship they had with us.

²³ And it pleased the people to entertain the men honourably, and to put the copy of their ambassage in public records, to the end the people of the Lacedemonians might have a memorial thereof: furthermore we have written a copy thereof unto Simon the high priest.

²⁴ After this Simon sent Numenius to Rome with a great shield of gold of a thousand pound weight, to confirm the league with them. ²⁵ Whereof when the people heard, they said, What thanks shall we give to Simon and his sons? ²⁶ For he and his brethren and the house of his father have established Israel, and chased away in fight their enemies from them, and confirmed their liberty.

²⁷ So then they wrote it in tables of brass, which they set upon pillars in mount Sion: and this is the copy of the writing; The eighteenth day of the month Elul, in the hundred threescore and twelfth year, being the third year of Simon the high priest, ²⁸ at Saramel in the great congregation of the priests, and people, and rulers of the nation, and elders of the country, were these things notified unto us.

²⁹ Forasmuch as oftentimes there have been wars in the country, wherein for the maintenance of their sanctuary, and the law, Simon the son of Mattathias, of the posterity of Jarib, together with his brethren, put themselves in jeopardy, and resisting the enemies of their nation did their nation great honour:

³⁰ (For after that Jonathan, having gathered his nation together, and been their high priest, was added to his people, ³¹ their enemies purposed to invade their country, that they might destroy it, and lay hands on the sanctuary: ³² at which time Simon rose up, and fought for his nation, and spent much of his own substance, and armed the valiant men of his nation, and gave them wages, ³³ and fortified the cities of Judea, together with Bethsura, that lieth upon the borders of Judea, where the armour of the enemies had been before; but he set a garrison of Jews there: ³⁴ moreover he fortified Joppe, which lieth upon the sea, and Gazara, that bordereth upon Azotus, where the enemies had dwelt before: but he placed Jews there, and furnished them with all things convenient for the reparation thereof.)

³⁵ The people therefore, seeing the acts of Simon, and unto what glory he thought to bring his nation, made him their governor and chief priest, because he had done all these things, and for the justice and faith which he kept to his nation, and for that he sought by all means to exalt his people.

³⁶ For in his time things prospered in his hands, so that the heathen were taken out of their country, and they also that were in the city of David in Jerusalem, who had made themselves a tower, out of which they issued, and polluted all about the sanctuary, and did much hurt in the holy place: ³⁷ but he placed Jews therein, and fortified it for the safety of the country and the city, and raised up the walls of Jerusalem.

³⁸ King Demetrius also confirmed him in the high priesthood according to those things, ³⁹ and made him one of his friends, and honoured him with great honour.

⁴⁰ For he had heard say, that the Romans had called the Jews their friends and confederates and brethren; and that they had entertained the ambassadors of Simon honourably: ⁴¹ also that the Jews and priests were well pleased that Simon should be their governor and high priest for ever,

Μετὰ ταῦτα ἀπέστειλε Σίμων τὸν Νουμήνιον εἰς Ῥώμην 24 ἔχοντα ἀσπίδα χρυσήν μεγάλην ὀλκῆς μῶν χιλίων, εἰς τὸ 25 στήσαι πρὸς αὐτοὺς τὴν συμμαχίαν. Ὡς δὲ ἤκουσεν ὁ δῆμος 25 τῶν λόγων τούτων, εἶπον, τίνα χάριν ἀποδώσομεν Σίμωνι καὶ 26 τοῖς υἱοῖς αὐτοῦ; Ἐστήρισε γὰρ αὐτὸς καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ, 26 καὶ ὁ οἶκος τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπολέμησαν τοὺς ἐχθροὺς Ἰσραὴλ ἀπ' αὐτῶν, καὶ ἔστησαν αὐτῷ ἐλευθερίαν.

Καὶ κατέγραψαν ἐν δέλτοις χαλκαῖς, καὶ ἔθεντο ἐν στήλαις 27 ἐν ὄρει Σιών· καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἀντίγραφον τῆς γραφῆς· ὀκτωκαιδε- 28 κάτῃ Ἑλοῦλ, ἔτους δευτέρου καὶ ἐβδομηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ· καὶ τοῦτο τρίτον ἔτος ἐπὶ Σίμωνος ἀρχιερέως· ἐν Σαραμὲλ, ἐπὶ 28 συναγωγῆς μεγάλης ἱερέων, καὶ λαοῦ, καὶ ἀρχόντων ἔθνους, καὶ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων τῆς χώρας ἐγνώρισεν ἡμῖν.

Ἐπεὶ πολλάκις ἐγενήθησαν πόλεμοι ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ· Σίμων δὲ ὁ 29 υἱὸς Ματθαίου ὁ υἱὸς τῶν υἱῶν Ἰαρίβ καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ ἔδωκαν ἑαυτοὺς τῷ κινδύνῳ, καὶ ἀντέστησαν τοῖς ὑπεναντίοις 30 τοῦ ἔθνους αὐτῶν, ὅπως σταθῇ τὰ ἅγια αὐτῶν καὶ ὁ νόμος, καὶ 31 δόξῃ μεγάλη ἐδόξασαν τὸ ἔθνος αὐτῶν.

Καὶ ἠθροισεν Ἰωνάθαν τὸ ἔθνος αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐγενήθη αὐτοῖς 30 ἀρχιερεὺς, καὶ προσετέθη πρὸς τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐβουλή- 31 θησαν οἱ ἐχθροὶ αὐτῶν ἐμβатеῦσαι εἰς τὴν χώραν αὐτῶν, τοῦ ἐκτρίψαι τὴν χώραν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐκτείνειν χεῖρας ἐπὶ τὰ ἅγια 32 αὐτῶν· τότε ἀνέστη Σίμων, καὶ ἐπολέμησε περὶ τοῦ ἔθνους 32 αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἑδωκὴν χρήματα πολλὰ τῶν ἑαυτοῦ, καὶ ὥπλοδό- 33 τησε τοὺς ἄνδρας τῆς δυνάμεως τοῦ ἔθνους αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ὀψώνια, καὶ ὠχύρωσε τὰς πόλεις τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ τὴν 33 Βαιθσοῦραν τὴν ἐπὶ τῶν ὀρίων τῆς Ἰουδαίας, οὗ ἦν τὰ ὄπλα τῶν 34 πολεμίων τοπρότερον, καὶ ἔθετο ἐκεῖ φρουρὰν ἄνδρας Ἰουδαίους. Καὶ Ἰόππην ὠχύρωσε τὴν ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης, 34 καὶ τὴν Γάζαρα τὴν ἐπὶ τῶν ὀρίων Ἀζώτου, ἐν ᾗ ὦκουν οἱ 35 πολέμιοι τοπρότερον ἐκεῖ, καὶ κατώκισεν ἐκεῖ Ἰουδαίους, καὶ 36 ὅσα ἐπιτήδεια ἦν πρὸς τὴν τούτων ἐπανόρθωσιν ἔθετο ἐν 37 αὐτοῖς.

Καὶ εἶδεν ὁ λαὸς τὴν πρᾶξιν τοῦ Σίμωνος, καὶ τὴν δόξαν ἣν 35 ἐβουλευσατο ποιῆσαι τῷ ἔθνει αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔθεντο αὐτὸν ἡγου- 36 μενον αὐτῶν καὶ ἀρχιερέα, διὰ τὸ αὐτὸν πεποιηκέναι πάντα 37 ταῦτα, καὶ τὴν δικαιοσύνην, καὶ τὴν πίστιν ἣν συνετήρησε τῷ 38 ἔθνει αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐζήτησε παντὶ τρόπῳ ὑψῶσαι τὸν λαὸν αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις αὐτοῦ εὐωδῶθη ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν αὐτοῦ, 36 τοῦ ἐξαρθῆναι τὰ ἔθνη ἐκ τῆς χώρας αὐτῶν, καὶ τοὺς ἐν τῇ πόλει 37 Δαυὶδ τοὺς ἐν Ἱερουσαλήμ, οἱ ἐποίησαν ἑαυτοῖς ἄκραν, ἐξ ἧς 38 ἐξεπορεύοντο καὶ ἐμίαινον κύκλῳ τῶν ἁγίων, καὶ ἐποίουν πλη- 39 γὴν μεγάλην ἐν τῇ ἀγνείᾳ. Καὶ κατώκισεν ἐν αὐτῇ ἄνδρας 37 Ἰουδαίους, καὶ ὠχύρωσεν αὐτὴν πρὸς ἀσφάλειαν τῆς χώρας καὶ 38 τῆς πόλεως, καὶ ὑψωσε τὰ τείχη Ἱερουσαλήμ.

Καὶ ὁ βασιλεὺς Δημήτριος ἔστησεν αὐτῷ τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην 38 κατὰ ταῦτα, καὶ ἐποίησεν αὐτὸν τῶν φίλων αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐδόξασεν 39 αὐτὸν δόξῃ μεγάλῃ.

Ἦκουσε γὰρ ὅτι προσηγόρευνται οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι ὑπὸ Ῥωμαίων 40 φίλοι καὶ σύμμαχοι καὶ ἀδελφοί, καὶ ὅτι ἀπήντησαν τοῖς πρεσ- 41 βευταῖς Σίμωνος ἐνδόξως· καὶ ὅτι εὐδόκησαν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, καὶ 41 οἱ ἱερεῖς, τοῦ εἶναι Σίμονα ἡγουμένον καὶ ἀρχιερέα εἰς τὸν

42 αἰῶνα, ἕως τοῦ ἀναστῆναι προφήτην πιστόν· καὶ τοῦ εἶναι ἐπ' αὐτῶν στρατηγὸν, καὶ ὅπως μέλοι αὐτῷ περὶ τῶν ἁγίων καθιστάναι αὐτοὺς ἐπὶ τῶν ἔργων αὐτῶν καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς χώρας, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ὀπλων, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ὀχυρωμάτων· καὶ ὅπως μέλοι αὐτῷ περὶ τῶν ἁγίων, καὶ ὅπως ἀκούηται ὑπὸ πάντων, καὶ ὅπως γράφωνται ἐπὶ τῷ ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ πᾶσαι συγγραφαὶ ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ, καὶ ὅπως περιβάλληται πορφύραν, καὶ χρυσοφορῇ.

44 Καὶ οὐκ ἐξέσται οὐδενὶ τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ τῶν ἱερέων ἀθετῆσαι τι τούτων, καὶ ἀντειπεῖν τοῖς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ ῥηθησομένοις, καὶ ἐπισυστρέψαι συστροφήν ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ ἄνευ αὐτοῦ, καὶ περιβάλλεσθαι πορφύραν, καὶ ἐμποροῦσθαι πόρπην χρυσῆν. Ὅς δ' ἂν παρὰ ταῦτα ποιήσῃ ἢ ἀθετήσῃ τι τούτων, ἐνοχος ἔσται. Καὶ εὐδόκησε πᾶς ὁ λαὸς θέσθαι Σίμωνι, καὶ ποιῆσαι κατὰ τοὺς λόγους τούτους. Καὶ ἐπεδέξατο Σίμων, καὶ εὐδόκησεν ἀρχιερατεῦναι, καὶ εἶναι στρατηγὸς καὶ ἐθνάρχης τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ ἱερέων, καὶ τοῦ προστατῆσαι πάντων.

48 Καὶ τὴν γραφὴν ταύτην εἶπον θέσθαι ἐν δέλτοις χαλκαῖς, καὶ στήσαι αὐτὰς ἐν περιβόλῳ τῶν ἁγίων ἐν τόπῳ ἐπισήμῳ, τὰ δὲ ἀντίγραφα αὐτῶν θέσθαι ἐν τῷ γαζοφυλακίῳ, ὅπως ἔχῃ Σίμων, καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ.

15 Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ Ἀντίοχος υἱὸς Δημητρίου τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπιστολὰς ἀπὸ τῶν νήσων τῆς θαλάσσης Σίμωνι ἱερεὶ καὶ ἐθνάρχῃ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ παντὶ τῷ ἔθνει. Καὶ ἦσαν περιέχουσai τὸν τρόπον τούτον· βασιλεὺς Ἀντίοχος Σίμωνι ἱερεὶ μεγάλῳ, καὶ ἐθνάρχῃ, καὶ ἔθνει Ἰουδαίων χαίρειν.

3 Ἐπειδὴ ἄνδρες λοιμοὶ κατεκράτησαν τῆς βασιλείας τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, βούλομαι δὲ ἀντιποιήσασθαι τῆς βασιλείας, ὅπως ἀποκαταστήσω αὐτὴν ὡς ἦν πρότερον, ἐξεολόγησα δὲ πλῆθος δυνάμεων, καὶ κατεσκευάσα πλοῖα πολεμικὰ, βούλομαι δὲ ἐκβῆναι κατὰ τὴν χώραν, ὅπως μετέλθω τοὺς κατεφθαρκότας τὴν χώραν ἡμῶν, καὶ τοὺς ἡρημωκότας πόλεις πολλὰς ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ· νῦν οὖν ἵστημί σοι πάντα τὰ ἀφαιρέματα ἃ ἀφῆκάν σοι οἱ πρὸ ἐμοῦ βασιλεῖς, καὶ ὅσα ἄλλα δόματα ἀφῆκάν σοι.

6 Καὶ ἐπέτρεψά σοι ποιῆσαι κόμμα ἴδιον νόμισμα τῇ χώρᾳ σου, Ἱερουσαλὴμ δὲ καὶ τὰ ἅγια εἶναι ἐλεύθερα· καὶ πάντα τὰ ὅπλα ὅσα κατεσκευάσας, καὶ τὰ ὀχυρώματα ἃ ᾤκοδόμησας, ὧν κρατεῖς, μενέτω σοι. Καὶ πᾶν ὀφείλημα βασιλικὸν, καὶ τὰ ἐσόμενα βασιλικὰ, ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν καὶ εἰς τὸν ἅπαντα χρόνον ἀφίεσθω σοι· ὡς δ' ἂν κρατήσωμεν τῆς βασιλείας ἡμῶν, δοξάσομέν σε, καὶ τὸ ἔθνος σου, καὶ τὸ ἱερὸν δόξῃ μεγάλη, ὥστε φανερὰν γενέσθαι τὴν δόξαν ὑμῶν ἐν πάσῃ τῇ γῇ.

10 Ἐτους τετάρτου καὶ ἐβδομηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ ἐξῆλθεν Ἀντίοχος εἰς τὴν γῆν πατέρων αὐτοῦ, καὶ συνῆλθον πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάσεις, ὥστε ὀλίγους εἶναι τοὺς καταλειφθέντας σὺν Τρύφωνι.

11 Καὶ ἐδίωξεν αὐτὸν Ἀντίοχος ὁ βασιλεὺς, καὶ ἦλθε φεύγων εἰς Δωρᾶ τὴν ἐπὶ τῆς θαλάσσης. Εἶδε γὰρ ὅτι συνῆκται ἐπ' αὐτὸν τὰ κακὰ, καὶ ἀφῆκάν αὐτὸν αἱ δυνάμεις.

until there should arise a faithful prophet; ⁴² moreover that he should be their captain, and should take charge of the sanctuary, to set them over their works, and over the country, and over the armour, and over the fortresses, that, *I say*, he should take charge of the sanctuary; ⁴³ beside this, that he should be obeyed of every man, and that all the writings in the country should be made in his name, and that he should be clothed in purple, and wear gold:

⁴⁴ Also that it should be lawful for none of the people or priests to break any of these things, or to gainsay his words, or to gather an assembly in the country without him, or to be clothed in purple, or wear a buckle of gold: ⁴⁵ and whosoever should do otherwise, or break any of these things, he should be punished. ⁴⁶ Thus it liked all the people to deal with Simon, and to do as hath been said. ⁴⁷ Then Simon accepted hereof, and was well pleased to be high priest, and captain and governor of the Jews and priests, and to defend them all.

⁴⁸ So they commanded that this writing should be put in tables of brass, and that they should be set up within the compass of the sanctuary in a conspicuous place; ⁴⁹ also that the copies thereof should be laid up in the treasury, to the end that Simon and his sons might have them.

Moreover Antiochus son of Demetrius the king sent letters from the isles of the sea unto Simon the priest and prince of the Jews, and to all the people; ² the contents whereof were these: King Antiochus to Simon the high priest and prince of his nation, and to the people of the Jews, greeting:

³ Forasmuch as certain pestilent men have usurped the kingdom of our fathers, and my purpose is to challenge it again, that I may restore it to the old estate, and to that end have gathered a multitude of foreign soldiers together, and prepared ships of war; ⁴ my meaning also being to go through the country, that I may be avenged of them that have destroyed it, and made many cities in the kingdom desolate: ⁵ now therefore I confirm unto thee all the oblations which the kings before me granted thee, and whatsoever gifts besides they granted.

⁶ I give thee leave also to coin money for thy country with thine own stamp. ⁷ And as concerning Jerusalem and the sanctuary, let them be free; and all the armour that thou hast made, and fortresses that thou hast built, and keepest in thine hands, let them remain unto thee. ⁸ And if any thing be, or shall be, owing to the king, let it be forgiven thee from this time forth for evermore. ⁹ Furthermore, when we have obtained our kingdom, we will honour thee, and thy nation, and thy temple, with great honour, so that your honour shall be known throughout the world.

¹⁰ In the hundred threescore and fourteenth year went Antiochus into the land of his fathers: at which time all the forces came together unto him, so that few were left with Tryphon.

¹¹ Wherefore being pursued by king Antiochus, he fled unto Dora, which lieth by the sea side: ¹² for he saw that troubles came upon him all at once, and that his forces had forsaken him.

¹³ Then camped Antiochus against Dora, having with him an hundred and twenty thousand men of war, and eight thousand horsemen. ¹⁴ And when he had compassed the city round about, and joined ships close to the town on the sea side, he vexed the city by land and by sea, neither suffered he any to go out or in.

¹⁵ In the mean season came Numenius and his company from Rome, having letters to the kings and countries; wherein were written these things:

¹⁶ Lucius, consul of the Romans unto king Ptolemy, greeting: ¹⁷ The Jews' ambassadors, our friends and confederates, came unto us to renew the old friendship and league, being sent from Simon the high priest, and from the people of the Jews: ¹⁸ and they brought a shield of gold of a thousand pound. ¹⁹ We thought it good therefore to write unto the kings and countries, that they should do them no harm, nor fight against them, their cities, or countries, nor yet aid their enemies against them. ²⁰ It seemed also good to us to receive the shield of them. ²¹ If therefore there be any pestilent fellows, that have fled from their country unto you, deliver them unto Simon the high priest, that he may punish them according to their own law.

²² The same things wrote he likewise unto Demetrius the king, and Attalus, to Ariarathes, and Arsaces, ²³ and to all the countries, and to Sampsames, and the Lacedemonians, and to Delus, and Myndus, and Sicyon, and Caria, and Samos, and Pamphylia, and Lycia, and Halicarnassus, and Rhodus, and Phaselis, and Cos, and Side, and Aradus, and Gortyna, and Cnidus, and Cyprus, and Cyrene. ²⁴ And the copy hereof they wrote to Simon the high priest.

²⁵ So Antiochus the king camped against Dora the second day, assaulting it continually, and making engines, by which means he shut up Tryphon, that he could neither go out nor in.

²⁶ At that time Simon sent him two thousand chosen men to aid him; silver also, and gold, and much armour. ²⁷ Nevertheless he would not receive them, but brake all the covenants which he had made with him afore, and became strange unto him.

²⁸ Furthermore he sent unto him Athenobius, one of his friends, to commune with him, and say, Ye withhold Joppe and Gazara, with the tower that is in Jerusalem, which are cities of my realm. ²⁹ The borders thereof ye have wasted, and done great hurt in the land, and got the dominion of many places within my kingdom. ³⁰ Now therefore deliver the cities which ye have taken, and the tributes of the places, whereof ye have gotten dominion without the borders of Judea: ³¹ or else give me for them five hundred talents of silver; and for the harm that ye have done, and the tributes of the cities, other five hundred talents: if not, we will come and fight against you.

³² So Athenobius the king's friend came to Jerusalem: and when he saw the glory of Simon, and the cupboard of gold and silver plate, and his great attendance, he was astonished, and told him the king's message.

Καὶ παρενέβαλεν Ἀντίοχος ἐπὶ Δωρᾶ, καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ δώδεκα 13
 μυριάδες ἀνδρῶν πολεμιστῶν, καὶ ὀκτακισχίλια ἵππους. Καὶ 14
 ἐκύκλωσε τὴν πόλιν, καὶ τὰ πλοῖα ἀπὸ θαλάσσης συνήψαν, καὶ
 ἔθλιβε τὴν πόλιν ἀπὸ τῆς γῆς, καὶ τῆς θαλάσσης, καὶ οὐκ εἴασεν
 οὐδένα ἐκπορεύεσθαι καὶ εἰσπορεύεσθαι.

Καὶ ἦλθε Νουμήνιος, καὶ οἱ παρ' αὐτοῦ, ἐκ Ῥώμης, ἔχοντες 15
 ἐπιστολὰς τοῖς βασιλεῦσι, καὶ ταῖς χώραις ἐν αἷς ἐγγράπτο
 τὰδε·

Λεύκιος ὑπάτος Ῥωμαίων Πτολεμαίῳ βασιλεῖ χαίρειν. 16
 Οἱ πρεσβευταὶ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἦλθον πρὸς ἡμᾶς φίλοι ἡμῶν, καὶ 17
 σύμμαχοι, ἀνανεοῦμενοι τὴν ἐξ ἀρχῆς φιλίαν καὶ συμμαχίαν,
 ἀπεσταλμένοι ἀπὸ Σίμωνος τοῦ ἀρχιερέως, καὶ τοῦ δήμου
 τῶν Ἰουδαίων. Ἦνεγκαν δὲ ἀσπίδα χρυσῇ ἀπὸ μυνῶν χιλίων. 18
 Ἦρεσεν οὖν ἡμῖν γράψαι τοῖς βασιλεῦσι, καὶ ταῖς χώραις, 19
 ὅπως μὴ ἐκζητήσωσιν αὐτοῖς, κακὰ καὶ μὴ πολεμήσωσιν αὐτοὺς,
 καὶ τὰς πόλεις αὐτῶν, καὶ τὴν χώραν αὐτῶν, καὶ ἵνα μὴ συμ-
 μαχήσωσι τοῖς πολεμοῦσιν αὐτούς. Ἔδοξε δὲ ἡμῖν δέξασθαι 20
 τὴν ἀσπίδα παρ' αὐτῶν. Εἴ τινες οὖν λοιμοὶ διαπεφεύγασιν 21
 ἐκ τῆς χώρας αὐτῶν πρὸς ὑμᾶς, παράδοτε αὐτοὺς Σίμωνι τῷ
 ἀρχιερεῖ, ὅπως ἐκδικήσῃ ἐν αὐτοῖς κατὰ τὸν νόμον αὐτῶν.

Καὶ τὰ αὐτὰ ἔγραψε Δημητρίῳ τῷ βασιλεῖ, καὶ Ἀττάλῳ, 22
 Ἀριαράθῃ, καὶ Ἀρσάκῃ. Καὶ εἰς πάσας τὰς χώρας, καὶ 23
 Σαμψάμῃ, καὶ Σπαρτιάταις, καὶ εἰς Δῆλον, καὶ εἰς Μύνδον,
 καὶ εἰς Σικυῶνα, καὶ εἰς τὴν Καρίαν, καὶ εἰς Σάμον, καὶ εἰς τὴν
 Παμφυλίαν, καὶ εἰς τὴν Λυκίαν, καὶ εἰς Ἀλικαρνασσὸν, καὶ εἰς
 Ῥόδον, καὶ εἰς Φασηλίδαν, καὶ εἰς Κῶν, καὶ εἰς Σίδην, καὶ εἰς
 Ἀραδὸν, καὶ εἰς Γόρτυναν, καὶ Κνίδον, καὶ Κύπρον, καὶ Κυρή-
 νην. Τὸ δὲ ἀντίγραφον αὐτῶν ἔγραψαν Σίμωνι τῷ ἀρχιερεῖ. 24

Ἀντίοχος δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς παρενέβαλεν ἐπὶ Δωρᾶ ἐν τῇ δευ- 25
 τέρῃ, προσάγων διαπαντὸς αὐτῇ τὰς χεῖρας, καὶ μηχανὰς ποιού-
 μενος, καὶ συνέκλεισε τὸν Τρύφωνα τοῦ μὴ εἰσπορεύεσθαι καὶ
 ἐκπορεύεσθαι.

Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν αὐτῷ Σίμων δισχιλίους ἄνδρας ἐκλεκτοὺς 26
 συμμαχεῖν αὐτῷ, καὶ ἀργύριον καὶ χρυσίον, καὶ σκεύη ἱκανά.
 Καὶ οὐκ ἠβούλετο αὐτὰ δέξασθαι, ἀλλ' ἠθέτησε πάντα ὅσα 27
 συνέθετο αὐτῷ τοπρότερον, καὶ ἠλλοτριῶτο αὐτῷ.

Καὶ ἀπέστειλε πρὸς αὐτὸν Ἀθηνόβιον ἕνα τῶν φίλων αὐτοῦ 28
 κοινολογησάμενον αὐτῷ λέγων, ὑμεῖς κατακρατεῖτε τῆς Ἰόππης
 καὶ Γαζάρων καὶ τῆς ἄκρας τῆς ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, πόλεις τῆς
 βασιλείας μου. Τὰ ὅρια αὐτῶν ἡρημώσατε, καὶ ἐποιήσατε 29
 πληγὴν μεγάλην ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ ἐκυριεύσατε τόπων πολλῶν
 ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ μου. Νῦν οὖν παράδοτε τὰς πόλεις ἅς 30
 κατελάβεσθε, καὶ τοὺς φόρους τῶν τόπων ὧν κατεκυριεύσατε
 ἐκτὸς τῶν ὁρίων τῆς Ἰουδαίας. Εἰ δὲ μὴ, δότε ἀντ' αὐτῶν 31
 πεντακόσια τάλαντα ἀργυρίου, καὶ τῆς καταφθορᾶς ἧς κατε-
 φθάρκατε, καὶ τῶν φόρων τῶν πόλεων ἄλλα τάλαντα πεντα-
 κόσια· εἰ δὲ δὴ, παραγενόμενοι ἐκπολεμήσομεν ὑμᾶς.

Καὶ ἦλθεν Ἀθηνόβιος φίλος τοῦ βασιλέως εἰς Ἱερουσαλὴμ, 32
 καὶ εἶδε τὴν δόξαν Σίμωνος, καὶ κυλικεῖον μετὰ χρυσομάτων,
 καὶ ἀργυρωμάτων, καὶ παράστασιν ἱκανὴν, καὶ ἐξίστατο, καὶ
 ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτῷ τοὺς λόγους τοῦ βασιλέως.

33 Καὶ ἀποκριθεὶς Σίμων εἶπεν αὐτῷ, οὔτε γῆν ἀλλοτρίαν εἰλή-
 φαμεν, οὔτε ἀλλοτρίων κεκρατήκαμεν, ἀλλὰ τῆς κληρονομίας
 34 τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, ὑπὸ δὲ ἐχθρῶν ἡμῶν ἐν τινι καιρῷ ἀκρίτως
 κατεκρατήθη. Ἡμεῖς δὲ καιρὸν ἔχοντες ἀντεχόμεθα τῆς κληρο-
 35 νομίας τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν. Περὶ δὲ Ἰόππης καὶ Γαζάρων ὧν
 αἰτεῖς, αὗται ἐποιοῦν ἐν τῷ λαῷ πληγὴν μεγάλην κατὰ τὴν
 χώραν ἡμῶν, τούτων δώσομεν τάλαντα ἑκατόν·

36 Καὶ οὐκ ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ Ἀθηνόβιος λόγον. Ἀπέστρεψε δὲ
 μετὰ θυμοῦ πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα, καὶ ἀπήγγειλεν αὐτῷ τοὺς
 λόγους τούτους, καὶ τὴν δόξαν Σίμωνος, καὶ πάντα ὅσα εἶδε·
 37 καὶ ὠργίσθη ὁ βασιλεὺς ὀργὴν μεγάλην. Τρύφων δὲ ἐμβὰς
 εἰς πλοῖον ἔφυγεν εἰς Ὀρθωσιάδα.

38 Καὶ κατέστησεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τὸν Κενδεβαῖον στρατηγὸν τῆς
 39 παραλίας, καὶ δυνάμεις πεζικὰς καὶ ἱππικὰς ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ. Καὶ
 ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ παρεμβαλεῖν κατὰ πρόσωπον τῆς Ἰουδαίας·
 καὶ ἐνετείλατο αὐτῷ οἰκοδομῆσαι τὴν Κεδρὼν, καὶ ὀχυρῶσαι τὰς
 πύλας, καὶ ὅπως πολεμήσῃ τὸν λαόν· ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς ἐδίωκε τὸν
 Τρύφωνα.

40 Καὶ παρεγενήθη Κενδεβαῖος εἰς Ἰάμνειαν, καὶ ἤρξατο τοῦ
 ἐρεθίζειν τὸν λαόν, καὶ ἐμβατεύειν εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, καὶ
 41 αἰχμαλωτίζειν τὸν λαόν καὶ φονεῖν. Καὶ ὠκοδόμησε τὴν
 Κεδρὼν· καὶ ἔταξεν ἐκεῖ ἱππεῖς καὶ δυνάμεις, ὅπως ἐκπορευό-
 μενοι ἐξοδεύωσι τὰς ὁδοὺς τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καθὰ συνέταξεν αὐτῷ
 ὁ βασιλεὺς.

16 Καὶ ἀνέβη Ἰωάννης ἐκ Γαζάρων, καὶ ἀπήγγειλε Σίμωνι τῷ
 πατρὶ αὐτοῦ ἃ συνετέλει Κενδεβαῖος.

2 Καὶ ἐκάλεσε Σίμων τοὺς δύο υἱοὺς αὐτοῦ τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους
 Ἰούδαν καὶ Ἰωάννην, καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, ἐγὼ καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοί μου,
 καὶ ὁ οἶκος τοῦ πατρός μου, ἐπολεμήσαμεν τοὺς πολεμίους
 Ἰσραὴλ ἀπὸ νεότητος ἕως τῆς σήμερον ἡμέρας, καὶ εὐωδῶθη ἐν
 3 ταῖς χερσὶν ἡμῶν ῥύσασθαι τὸν Ἰσραὴλ πλεονάκεις. Νῦν δὲ
 γεγήρακα, καὶ ὑμεῖς δὲ ἐν τῷ ἐλέει ἱκανοί ἐστε ἐν τοῖς ἔτεσι·
 γίνεσθε ἀντ' ἐμοῦ, καὶ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ μου, καὶ ἐξελθόντες ὑπερ-
 μαχεῖτε ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἔθνους ἡμῶν, ἥ δὲ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ βοήθεια
 ἔστω μεθ' ὑμῶν.

4 Καὶ ἐπέλεξεν ἐκ τῆς χώρας ἑκοσι χιλιάδας ἀνδρῶν πολε-
 μιστῶν, καὶ ἱππεῖς, καὶ ἐπορεύθωσαν ἐπὶ τὸν Κενδεβαῖον, καὶ
 ἐκοιμήθησαν ἐν Μωδεῖν.

5 Καὶ ἀναστάντες τοπρῶι ἐπορεύοντο εἰς τὸ πεδῖον, καὶ ἰδοὺ
 δύναμις πολλὴ εἰς συνάντησιν αὐτοῖς πεζικὴ, καὶ ἱππεῖς, καὶ ἦν
 6 χειμάρρους ἀναμέσον αὐτῶν. Καὶ παρενέβαλε κατὰ πρόσω-
 πον αὐτῶν αὐτός, καὶ ὁ λαὸς αὐτοῦ· καὶ εἶδε τὸν λαὸν δειλού-
 μενον διαπεράσαι τὸν χειμάρρουν, καὶ διεπέρασε πρῶτος, καὶ
 7 ἰδὼν αὐτὸν οἱ ἄνδρες, καὶ διεπέρασαν κατόπισθεν αὐτοῦ. Καὶ
 διεῖλε τὸν λαόν, καὶ τοὺς ἱππεῖς ἐν μέσῳ τῶν πέζων· ἡ δὲ ἵππος
 τῶν ὑπεναντίων πολλὴ σφόδρα.

8 Καὶ ἐσάλπισαν ταῖς ἱεραῖς σάλπιγξι, καὶ ἐτροπώθη Κενδε-
 βαῖος καὶ ἡ παρεμβολὴ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἔπεσον ἐξ αὐτῶν τραυματίαι
 πολλοί· οἱ δὲ καταλειφθέντες ἔφυγον εἰς τὸ ὀχύρωμα.

9 Τότε ἐτραυματίσθη Ἰούδας ὁ ἀδελφὸς Ἰωάννου· Ἰωάννης
 δὲ κατεδίωξεν αὐτοὺς ἕως ἤλθεν εἰς Κεδρὼν, ἣν ὠκοδόμησε.

³³ Then answered Simon, and said unto him, We have neither taken other men's land, nor holden that which appertaineth to others, but the inheritance of our fathers, which our enemies had wrongfully in possession a certain time. ³⁴ Wherefore we, having opportunity, hold the inheritance of our fathers. ³⁵ And whereas thou demandest Joppe and Gazara, albeit they did great harm unto the people in our country, yet will we give an hundred talents for them.

Hereunto Athenobius answered him not a word; ³⁶ but returned in a rage to the king, and made report unto him of these speeches, and of the glory of Simon, and of all that he had seen: whereupon the king was exceeding wroth. ³⁷ In the mean time fled Tryphon by ship unto Orthosias.

³⁸ Then the king made Cendebeus captain of the sea coast, and gave him an host of footmen and horsemen, ³⁹ and commanded him to remove his host toward Judea: also he commanded him to build up Cedron, and to fortify the gates, and to war against the people; but as for the king himself, he pursued Tryphon.

⁴⁰ So Cendebeus came to Jamnia, and began to provoke the people, and to invade Judea, and to take the people prisoners, and slay them. ⁴¹ And when he had built up Cedron, he set horsemen there, and an host of footmen, to the end that issuing out they might make outroads upon the ways of Judea, as the king had commanded him.

Then came up John from Gazara, and told Simon his father what Cendebeus had done.

² Wherefore Simon called his two eldest sons, Judas and John, and said unto them, I, and my brethren, and my father's house, have ever from our youth unto this day fought against the enemies of Israel; and things have prospered so well in our hands, that we have delivered Israel oftentimes. ³ But now I am old, and ye, by God's mercy, are of a sufficient age: be ye instead of me and my brother, and go and fight for our nation, and the help from heaven be with you.

⁴ So he chose out of the country twenty thousand men of war with horsemen, who went out against Cendebeus, and rested that night at Modin.

⁵ And when as they rose in the morning, and went into the plain, behold, a mighty great host both of footmen and horsemen came against them: howbeit there was a water brook betwixt them. ⁶ So he and his people pitched over against them: and when he saw that the people were afraid to go over the water brook, he went first over himself, and then the men seeing him passed through after him. ⁷ That done, he divided his men, and set the horsemen in the midst of the footmen: for the enemies' horsemen were very many.

⁸ Then sounded they with the holy trumpets: whereupon Cendebeus and his host were put to flight, so that many of them were slain, and the remnant gat them to the strong hold.

⁹ At that time was Judas John's brother wounded; but John still followed after them, until he came to Cedron, which

Cendebeus had built. ¹⁰ So they fled even unto the towers in the fields of Azotus; wherefore he burned it with fire: so that there were slain of them about two thousand men. Afterward he returned into the land of Judea in peace.

¹¹ Moreover in the plain of Jericho was Ptolemeus the son of Abubus made captain, and he had abundance of silver and gold: ¹² for he was the high priest's son in law. ¹³ Wherefore his heart being lifted up, he thought to get the country to himself, and thereupon consulted deceitfully against Simon and his sons to destroy them.

¹⁴ Now Simon was visiting the cities that were in the country, and taking care for the good ordering of them; at which time he came down himself to Jericho with his sons, Mattathias and Judas, in the hundred three-score and seventeenth year, in the eleventh month, called Sabat: ¹⁵ where the son of Abubus receiving them deceitfully into a little hold, called Docus, which he had built, made them a great banquet: howbeit he had hid men there.

¹⁶ So when Simon and his sons had drunk largely, Ptolemee and his men rose up, and took their weapons, and came upon Simon into the banqueting place, and slew him, and his two sons, and certain of his servants. ¹⁷ In which doing he committed a great treachery, and recompensed evil for good.

¹⁸ Then Ptolemee wrote these things, and sent to the king, that he should send him an host to aid him, and he would deliver him the country and cities.

¹⁹ He sent others also to Gazara to kill John: and unto the tribunes he sent letters to come unto him, that he might give them silver, and gold, and rewards. ²⁰ And others he sent to take Jerusalem, and the mountain of the temple.

²¹ Now one had run afore to Gazara, and told John that his father and brethren were slain, and, *quoth he*, Ptolemee hath sent to slay thee also. ²² Hereof when he heard, he was sore astonished: so he laid hands on them that were come to destroy him, and slew them; for he knew that they sought to make him away.

²³ As concerning the rest of the acts of John, and his wars, and worthy deeds which he did, and the building of the walls which he made, and his doings, ²⁴ behold, these are written in the chronicles of his priesthood, from the time he was made high priest after his father.

Καὶ ἔφυγον ἕως εἰς τοὺς πύργους τοὺς ἐν τοῖς ἀγροῖς Ἀζώτου, 10 καὶ ἐνεπύρισεν αὐτὴν ἐν πυρὶ, καὶ ἔπεσον ἐξ αὐτῶν εἰς ἄνδρας δισχιλίους· καὶ ἀπέστρεψεν εἰς γῆν Ἰούδα μετ' εἰρήνης.

Καὶ Πτολεμαῖος ὁ τοῦ Ἀβούβου ἦν καθεσταμένος στρατη- 11 γὸς εἰς τὸ πεδῖον Ἰεριχῶ, καὶ ἔσχεν ἀργύριον καὶ χρυσίον πολὺ· ἦν γὰρ γαμβρὸς τοῦ ἀρχιερέως. Καὶ ὑψώθη ἡ καρ- 12, 13 δία αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἡβουλήθη κατακρατῆσαι τῆς χώρας, καὶ ἐβουλεύετο δόλῳ κατὰ Σίμωνος, καὶ τῶν υἱῶν αὐτοῦ, ἄραι αὐτούς.

Σίμων δὲ ἦν ἐφοδεύων τὰς πόλεις τὰς ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ, καὶ 14 φροντίζων τῆς ἐπιμελείας αὐτῶν, καὶ κατέβη εἰς Ἰεριχῶ αὐτὸς, καὶ Ματθαθίας καὶ Ἰούδας οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ, ἔτους ἐβδόμου καὶ ἐβδομηκοστοῦ καὶ ἑκατοστοῦ, ἐν μηνὶ ἐνδεκάτῳ, οὗτος ὁ μὴν Σαβάτ. Καὶ ὑπεδέξατο αὐτοὺς ὁ τοῦ Ἀβούβου εἰς τὸ ὄχυρ- 15 μάτιον τὸ καλούμενον Δῶκ, μετὰ δόλου, ὃ ὠκοδόμησε, καὶ ἐποίησεν αὐτοῖς πότον μέγαν, καὶ ἐνέκρυψεν ἐκεῖ ἄνδρας.

Καὶ ὅτε ἐμεθύσθη Σίμων καὶ οἱ υἱοὶ αὐτοῦ, ἔξανέστη Πτολε- 16 μαῖος καὶ οἱ παρ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐλάβοσαν τὰ ὄπλα αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπεισήλθοσαν τῷ Σίμωνι εἰς τὸ συμπόσιον, καὶ ἀπέκτειναν αὐτὸν καὶ τοὺς δύο υἱοὺς αὐτοῦ, καὶ τινὰς τῶν παιδαρίων αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ἐποίησεν ἀθεσίαν μεγάλην, καὶ ἀπέδωκε κατὰ ἀντὶ ἀγαθῶν 17

Καὶ ἔγραψε ταῦτα Πτολεμαῖος, καὶ ἀπέστειλε τῷ βασιλεῖ 18 ὅπως ἀποστείλῃ αὐτῷ δυνάμεις εἰς βοήθειαν, καὶ παραδῶ αὐτῷ τὴν χώραν αὐτῶν, καὶ τὰς πόλεις.

Καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ἑτέρους εἰς Γάζαρα ἄραι τὸν Ἰωάννην, καὶ 19 τοῖς χιλιάρχοις ἀπέστειλεν ἐπιστολὰς παραγενέσθαι πρὸς αὐτὸν, ὅπως δῶ αὐτοῖς ἀργύριον καὶ χρυσίον καὶ δόματα. Καὶ 20 ἑτέρους ἀπέστειλε καταλαβέσθαι τὴν Ἱερουσαλὴμ, καὶ τὸ ὄρος τοῦ ἱεροῦ.

Καὶ προδραμών τις ἀπήγγειλεν Ἰωάννῃ εἰς Γάζαρα, ὅτι ἀπό- 21 λετο ὁ πατὴρ αὐτοῦ καὶ οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ὅτι ἀπέσταλκε καὶ σὲ ἀποκτεῖναι. Καὶ ἀκούσας ἐξέστη σφόδρα· καὶ συνέλαβε 22 τοὺς ἄνδρας τοὺς ἐλθόντας ἀπολέσαι αὐτὸν, καὶ ἀπέκτεινεν αὐτούς, ἐπέγνων γὰρ ὅτι ἐζήτουν αὐτὸν ἀπολέσαι.

Καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ τῶν λόγων Ἰωάννου, καὶ τῶν πολέμων αὐτοῦ, 23 καὶ τῶν ἀνδραγαθίων αὐτοῦ ὧν ἠνδραγάθησε, καὶ τῆς οἰκοδομῆς τῶν τειχέων ὧν ὠκοδόμησε, καὶ τῶν πράξεων αὐτοῦ, ἰδοὺ ταῦτα 24 γέγραπται ἐπὶ βιβλίῳ ἡμερῶν ἀρχιερωσύνης αὐτοῦ, ἀφ' οὗ ἐγενήθη ἀρχιερεὺς μετὰ τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ.

Μ Α Κ Κ Α Β Α Ι Ω Ν Β'.

ΤΟΙΣ ἀδελφοῖς τοῖς κατ' Αἴγυπτον Ἰουδαίοις χαίρειν· οἱ ἀδελφοὶ οἱ ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις Ἰουδαῖοι, καὶ οἱ ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ τῆς Ἰουδαίας, εἰρήνην ἀγαθήν.

- 2 Καὶ ἀγαθοποιῆσαι ὑμῖν ὁ Θεὸς, καὶ μνησθεῖν τῆς διαθήκης αὐτοῦ τῆς πρὸς Ἀβραάμ, καὶ Ἰσαὰκ, καὶ Ἰακώβ τῶν δούλων
- 3 αὐτοῦ τῶν πιστῶν. Καὶ δώῃ ὑμῖν καρδίαν πᾶσιν εἰς τὸ σέβ-
εσθαι αὐτὸν, καὶ ποιεῖν αὐτοῦ τὰ θελήματα καρδίᾳ μεγάλῃ, καὶ
- 4 ψυχῇ βουλομένῃ. Καὶ διανοίξαι τὴν καρδίαν ὑμῶν ἐν τῷ νόμῳ
- 5 αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐν τοῖς προστάγμασι, καὶ εἰρήνην ποιῆσαι, καὶ
- 6 ἐπακούσαι ὑμῶν τῶν δεήσεων, καὶ καταλλαγείῃ ὑμῖν, καὶ μὴ
- 7 ὑμᾶς ἐγκαταλίποι ἐν καιρῷ πονηρῷ. Καὶ νῦν ὧδέ ἐσμεν προσ-
ευχόμενοι περὶ ὑμῶν.
- 8 Βασιλεύοντος Δημητρίου ἔτους ἑκατοστοῦ ἐξήκοστοῦ ἐννα-
του, ἡμεῖς οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι γεγραφήκαμεν ὑμῖν ἐν τῇ θλίψει, καὶ ἐν
- 9 τῇ ἀκμῇ τῇ ἐπελθούσῃ ἡμῖν ἐν τοῖς ἔτεσι τούτοις, ἀφ' οὗ ἀπέστη
- 10 Ἰάσων καὶ οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγίας γῆς, καὶ τῆς βασιλείας·
- 11 καὶ ἐνεπύρισαν τὸν πυλῶνα, καὶ ἐξέχεαν αἷμα ἀθῶων· καὶ ἐδεή-
θημεν τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ εἰσηκούσθημεν, καὶ προσηνέγκαμεν
- 12 θυσίαν, καὶ σεμίδαλιν, καὶ ἐξήψαμεν τοὺς λύχνους, καὶ προεθή-
καμεν τοὺς ἄρτους. Καὶ νῦν ἵνα ἄγῃτε τὰς ἡμέρας τῆς σκηνο-
πηγίας τοῦ Χασελεῦ μηνός.
- 13 Ἐτους ἑκατοστοῦ ὀγδοηκοστοῦ καὶ ὀγδόου οἱ ἐν Ἱεροσολύ-
μοις, καὶ οἱ ἐν τῇ Ἰουδαίᾳ, καὶ ἡ γερουσία, καὶ Ἰούδας Ἀριστο-
βούλῳ διδασκάλῳ Πτολεμαίου τοῦ βασιλέως, ὄντι δὲ ἀπὸ τοῦ
- 14 τῶν χριστῶν ἱερέων γένους, καὶ τοῖς ἐν Αἰγύπτῳ Ἰουδαίοις,
χαίρειν καὶ ὑγιαίνειν.
- 15 Ἐκ μεγάλων κινδύνων ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ σεσωσμένοι, μεγάλως
εὐχαριστοῦμεν αὐτῷ, ὡς ἂν πρὸς βασιλέα παρατασόμενοι.
- 16 Αὐτὸς γὰρ ἐξέβρασε τοὺς παραταξαμένους ἐν τῇ ἀγίᾳ πόλει.
- 17 Εἰς γὰρ τὴν Περσίδα γενόμενος ὁ ἡγεμὼν, καὶ ἡ περὶ αὐτὸν
ἀνυπόστατος δοκοῦσα εἶναι δύναμις, κατεκόπησαν ἐν τῷ τῆς
- 18 Ναναίας ἱερῷ, παραλογισμῷ χρησαμένων τῶν περὶ τὴν Ναναίαν
- 19 ἱερέων. Ὡς γὰρ συνοικήσων αὐτῇ παρεγένετο εἰς τὸν τόπον
- 20 ὃ, τε Ἀντίοχος, καὶ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ φίλοι, χάριν τοῦ λαβεῖν τὰ
- 21 χρήματα εἰς φερνῆς λόγον. Καὶ προθέντων αὐτὰ τῶν ἱερέων τῆς
- 22 Ναναίας, κακείνου προσελθόντος μετ' ὀλίγων εἰς τὸν περίβολον
- 23 τοῦ τεμένους, συγκλείσαντες τὸ ἱερὸν, ὡς εἰσῆλθεν Ἀντίοχος,
- 24 ἀνοίξαντες τὴν τοῦ φατνώματος κρυπτὴν θύραν, βάλλοντες
- 25 πέτρους συνεκραύνωσαν τὸν ἡγεμόνα, καὶ μέλη ποιήσαντες, καὶ
- 26 τὰς κεφαλὰς ἀφελόντες, τοῖς ἔξω παρέρριψαν.

THE brethren, the Jews that be at Jerusa-
lem and in the land of Judea, wish unto the
brethren, the Jews that are throughout
Egypt, health and peace:

² God be gracious unto you, and remem-
ber his covenant that he made with Abra-
ham, Isaac, and Jacob, his faithful servants;
³ and give you all an heart to serve him,
and to do his will, with a good courage and
a willing mind; ⁴ and open your hearts in
his law and commandments, and send you
peace, ⁵ and hear your prayers, and be at
one with you, and never forsake you in
time of trouble. ⁶ And now we be here
praying for you.

⁷ What time as Demetrius reigned, in the
hundred threescore and ninth year, we the
Jews wrote unto you in the extremity of
trouble that came upon us in those years,
from the time that Jason and his company
revolted from the holy land and kingdom,
⁸ and burned the porch, and shed innocent
blood: then we prayed unto the Lord, and
were heard; we offered also sacrifices and
fine flour, and lighted the lamps, and set
forth the loaves. ⁹ And now see that ye
keep the feast of tabernacles in the month
Casleu.

¹⁰ In the hundred fourscore and eighth
year, the people that were at Jerusalem and
in Judea, and the council, and Judas, sent
greeting and health unto Aristobulus, king
Ptolemeus' master, who was of the stock of
the anointed priests, and to the Jews that
were in Egypt:

¹¹ Insomuch as God hath delivered us
from great perils, we thank him highly, as
having been in battle against a king. ¹² For
he cast them out that fought within the
holy city.

¹³ For when the leader was come into Per-
sia, and the army with him that seemed
invincible, they were slain in the temple
of Nanea by the deceit of Nanea's priests.
¹⁴ For Antiochus, as though he would
marry her, came into the place, and his
friends that were with him, to receive
money in name of a dowry. ¹⁵ Which when
the priests of Nanea had set forth, and he
was entered with a small company into the
compass of the temple, they shut the temple
as soon as Antiochus was come in: ¹⁶ and
opening a privy door of the roof, they
threw stones like thunderbolts, and struck
down the captain, hewed them in pieces,
smote off their heads, and cast them to
those that were without.

¹⁷ Blessed be our God in all things, who hath delivered up the ungodly.

¹⁸ Therefore whereas we are now purposed to keep the purification of the temple upon the five and twentieth day of the month Casleu, we thought it necessary to certify you thereof, that ye also might keep it, as the feast of the tabernacles, and of the fire, which was given us when Neemias offered sacrifice, after that he had builded the temple and the altar. ¹⁹ For when our fathers were led into Persia, the priests that were then devout took the fire of the altar privily, and hid it in an hollow place of a pit without water, where they kept it sure, so that the place was unknown to all men.

²⁰ Now after many years, when it pleased God, Neemias, being sent from the king of Persia, did send of the posterity of those priests that had hid it to the fire: but when they told us they found no fire, but thick water; ²¹ then commanded he them to draw it up, and to bring it; and when the sacrifices were laid on, Neemias commanded the priests to sprinkle the wood and the things laid thereupon with the water. ²² When this was done, and the time came that the sun shone, which afore was hid in the cloud, there was a great fire kindled, so that every man marvelled.

²³ And the priests made a prayer whilst the sacrifice was consuming, *I say*, both the priests, and all the rest, Jonathan beginning, and the rest answering thereunto, as Neemias did.

²⁴ And the prayer was after this manner: O Lord, Lord God, Creator of all things, who art fearful and strong, and righteous, and merciful, and the only and gracious King, ²⁵ the only giver of all things, the only just, almighty, and everlasting, thou that deliverest Israel from all trouble, and didst choose the fathers, and sanctify them: ²⁶ receive the sacrifice for thy whole people Israel, and preserve thine own portion, and sanctify it. ²⁷ Gather those together that are scattered from us, deliver them that serve among the heathen, look upon them that are despised and abhorred, and let the heathen know that thou art our God. ²⁸ Punish them that oppress us, and with pride do us wrong. ²⁹ Plant thy people again in thy holy place, as Moses hath spoken. ³⁰ And the priests sung psalms of thanksgiving.

³¹ Now when the sacrifice was consumed, Neemias commanded the water that was left to be poured on the great stones. ³² When this was done, there was kindled a flame: but it was consumed by the light that shined from the altar.

³³ So when this matter was known, it was told the king of Persia, that in the place, where the priests that were led away had hid the fire, there appeared water, and that Neemias had purified the sacrifices therewith. ³⁴ Then the king, inclosing the place, made it holy, after he had tried the matter.

³⁵ And the king took many gifts, and bestowed thereof on those whom he would gratify. ³⁶ And Neemias called this thing Naphthar, which is as much as to say, a cleansing: but many men call it Nephi.

Κατὰ πάντα εὐλογητὸς ἡμῶν ὁ Θεός, ὃς παρέδωκε τοὺς 17 ἀσεβήσαντας.

Μέλλοντες οὖν ἄγειν ἐν τῷ Χασελεὺ πέμπτῃ καὶ εἰκάδι τὸν 18 καθαρισμόν τοῦ ἱεροῦ, δεόν ἡγησάμεθα διασαφῆσαι ὑμῖν, ἵνα καὶ αὐτοὶ ἄγῃτε τῆς σκηνοπηγίας καὶ τοῦ πυρὸς, ὅτε Νεεμίας οἰκοδομήσας τὸν τε ἱερὸν καὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον, ἀνήνεγκε θυσίαν. Καὶ γὰρ ὅτε εἰς τὴν Περσικὴν ἦγοντο οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν, οἱ τότε 19 εὐσεβεῖς ἱερεῖς λαβόντες ἀπὸ τοῦ πυρὸς τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου λαθραίως, κατέκρυψαν ἐν κοιλώματι φρέατος τάξιν ἔχοντος ἀνύδρου, ἐν ᾧ κατησφαλίσαντο, ὥστε πᾶσιν ἄγνωστον εἶναι τὸν τόπον.

Διελθόντων δὲ ἐτῶν ἱκανῶν, ὅτε ἔδοξε τῷ Θεῷ, ἀποσταλεῖς 20 Νεεμίας ὑπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως τῆς Περσίδος, τοὺς ἐκγόνους τῶν ἱερέων τῶν ἀποκρυφάντων ἔπεμψεν ἐπὶ τὸ πῦρ· ὡς δὲ διεσάφησαν ἡμῖν μὴ εὕρηκεναι πῦρ, ἀλλὰ ὕδωρ παχὺ, ἐκέλευσεν αὐτοὺς 21 ἀποβάψαντας φέρειν· ὡς δὲ ἀνενέχθη τὰ τῶν θυσιῶν, ἐκέλευσε τοὺς ἱερεῖς Νεεμίας ἐπιρῥᾶναι τῷ ὕδατι τὰ τε ξύλα, καὶ τὰ ἐπικείμενα. Ὡς δὲ ἐγένετο τοῦτο, καὶ χρόνος διήλθεν ὅτε ἥλιος 22 ἀνέλαμψε πρότερον ἐπινεφῆς ὢν, ἀνήφθη πυρὰ μεγάλη, ὥστε θαυμάσαι πάντας.

Προσευχὴν δὲ ἐποιήσαντο οἱ ἱερεῖς δαπανωμένης τῆς θυσίας, 23 οἱ τε ἱερεῖς, καὶ πάντες, καταρχομένου Ἰωνάθου, τῶν δὲ λοιπῶν ἐπιφωνούντων, ὡς Νεεμίου.

Ἦν δὲ ἡ προσευχὴ τὸν τρόπον ἔχουσα τοῦτον· Κύριε Κύριε 24 ὁ Θεὸς ὁ πάντων κτίστης, ὁ φοβερός, καὶ ἰσχυρὸς, καὶ δίκαιος, καὶ ἐλεήμων, ὁ μόνος βασιλεὺς καὶ χρηστὸς, ὁ μόνος χορηγός, 25 ὁ μόνος δίκαιος, καὶ παντοκράτωρ, καὶ αἰώνιος, ὁ διασώζων τὸν Ἰσραὴλ ἐκ παντὸς κακοῦ, ὁ ποιήσας τοὺς πατέρας ἐκλεκτοὺς, καὶ ἀγιάσας αὐτοὺς, πρόσδεξαι τὴν θυσίαν ὑπὲρ παντὸς τοῦ 26 λαοῦ σου Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ διαφύλαξον τὴν μερίδα σου καὶ καθ-
αγιάσον. Ἐπισυνάγαγε τὴν διασπορὰν ἡμῶν, ἐλευθέρωσον 27 τοὺς δουλεύοντας ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσι, τοὺς ἐξουθενημένους καὶ βδε-
λυκτοὺς ἔπιδε, καὶ γνώτωσαν τὰ ἔθνη ὅτι σὺ εἶ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν. Βασάνισον τοὺς καταδυναστεύοντας, καὶ ἐξυβρίζοντας ἐν ὑπερ- 28
ηφανίᾳ. Καταφύτευσον τὸν λαόν σου εἰς τὸν τόπον τὸν 29 ἅγιόν σου, καθὼς εἶπε Μωυσῆς. Οἱ δὲ ἱερεῖς ἐπέψαλλον τοὺς 30 ὕμνους.

Καθὼς δὲ ἀνηλώθη τὰ τῆς θυσίας, καὶ τὸ περιλειπόμενον 31 ὕδωρ, ὁ Νεεμίας ἐκέλευσε λίθους μείζονας κατασχεῖν. Ὡς δὲ 32 τοῦτο ἐγενήθη, φλόξ ἀνήφθη· τοῦ δὲ ἀπὸ τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου ἀντιλάμπαντος φωτὸς ἔδαπανήθη.

Ὡς δὲ φανερόν ἐγενήθη τὸ πρᾶγμα, καὶ διηγγέλη τῷ βασιλεῖ 33 τῶν Περσῶν, ὅτι εἰς τὸν τόπον οὗ τὸ πῦρ ἀπέκρυψαν οἱ μετα-
χθέντες ἱερεῖς, τὸ ὕδωρ ἐφάνη, ἀφ' οὗ καὶ οἱ περὶ τὸν Νεεμίαν ἤγγισαν τὰ τῆς θυσίας. Περιφράξας δὲ ὁ βασιλεὺς ἱερὸν 34 ἐποίησε, δοκιμάσας τὸ πρᾶγμα.

Καὶ οἷς ἐχαρίζετο ὁ βασιλεὺς πολλὰ διάφορα ἐλάμβανε καὶ 35 μετεδίδου. Προσηγόρευσαν δὲ οἱ περὶ τὸν Νεεμίαν τοῦτο 36 Νέφθαρ, ὃ διερμηνεύεται Καθαρισμός· καλεῖται δὲ παρὰ τοῖς πολλοῖς Νεφθαεί.

- 2 Εὐρίσκειται δὲ ἐν ταῖς ἀπογραφαῖς Ἱερεμίας ὁ προφήτης, ὅτι ἐκέλευσε τοῦ πυρὸς λαβεῖν τοὺς μεταγνομένους, ὡς σεση-
2 μανται, καὶ ὡς ἐνετείλατο τοῖς μεταγενομένοις ὁ προφήτης, δοὺς αὐτοῖς τὸν νόμον, ἵνα μὴ ἐπιλάθωνται τῶν προσταγμάτων τοῦ Κυρίου, καὶ ἵνα μὴ ἀποπλανηθῶσι ταῖς διανοαῖς, βλέποντες
3 ἀγάλματα χρυσᾶ καὶ ἀργυρᾶ, καὶ τὸν περὶ αὐτὰ κόσμον. Καὶ ἕτερα τοιαῦτα λέγων, παρεκάλει μὴ ἀποστῆναι τὸν νόμον ἀπὸ τῆς καρδίας αὐτῶν.
- 4 Ἦν δὲ ἐν τῇ γραφῇ, ὡς τὴν σκηνὴν καὶ τὴν κιβωτὸν ἐκέλευ-
σεν ὁ προφήτης, χρηματισμοῦ γενθέντος, αὐτῷ συνακολουθεῖν, ὡς δὲ ἐξῆλθεν εἰς τὸ ὄρος οὗ ὁ Μωυσῆς ἀναβὰς ἐθεάσατο τὴν
5 τοῦ Θεοῦ κληρονομίαν. Καὶ ἔλθων ὁ Ἱερεμίας εὗρεν οἶκον ἀντρώδην, καὶ τὴν σκηνὴν, καὶ τὴν κιβωτὸν, καὶ τὸ θυσιαστή-
ριον τοῦ θυμιάματος εἰσῆνεγκεν ἐκεῖ, καὶ τὴν θύραν ἐνέφραξε.
- 6 Καὶ προσελθόντες τινὲς τῶν συνακολουθούντων ὥστε ἐπιση-
7 μήνασθαι τὴν ὁδὸν, καὶ οὐκ ᾔδυνήθησαν εὐρεῖν. Ὡς δὲ ὁ Ἱερε-
μίας ἔγνω, μεμψάμενος αὐτοῖς εἶπεν, ὅτι καὶ ἄγνωστος ὁ τόπος ἔσται ἕως ἂν συναγάγῃ ὁ Θεὸς ἐπισυναγωγὴν τοῦ λαοῦ, καὶ
8 ἰλεὺς γένηται. Καὶ τότε ὁ Κύριος ἀναδείξει ταῦτα, καὶ ὀφθή-
σεται ἡ δόξα τοῦ Κυρίου καὶ ἡ νεφέλη, ὡς καὶ ἐπὶ Μωυσῇ ἐδη-
λοῦτο, ὡς καὶ ὁ Σαλωμὼν ἠξίωσεν ἵνα ὁ τόπος καθαγιασθῇ
μεγάλως.
- 9 Διεσαφεῖτο δὲ καὶ ὡς σοφίαν ἔχων ἀνήνεγκε θυσίαν ἐγκαι-
10 νισμοῦ, καὶ τῆς τελειώσεως τοῦ ἱεροῦ. Καθὼς καὶ Μωυσῆς
προσηύξατο πρὸς Κύριον, καὶ κατέβη πῦρ ἐκ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ, καὶ
τὰ τῆς θυσίας ἐδαπάνησεν· οὕτως καὶ Σαλωμὼν προσηύξατο,
11 καὶ καταβὰν τὸ πῦρ ἀνῆλωσε τὰ ὀλοκαυτώματα. Καὶ εἶπε
Μωυσῆς, διὰ τὸ μὴ βεβρώσθαι τὸ περὶ τῆς ἁμαρτίας, ἀνῆλώθη.
12 Ὡσαύτως καὶ ὁ Σαλωμὼν τὰς ὀκτὼ ἡμέρας ἤγαγεν.
- 13 Ἐξηγοῦντο δὲ καὶ ἐν ταῖς ἀναγραφαῖς, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ὑπομνη-
ματισμοῖς τοῖς κατὰ τὸν Νεεμίαν τὰ αὐτὰ, καὶ ὡς καταβαλλό-
μενος βιβλιοθήκην, ἐπισυνήγαγε τὰ περὶ τῶν βασιλέων καὶ
προφητῶν, καὶ τὰ τοῦ Δαυὶδ, καὶ ἐπιστολὰς βασιλέων περὶ
14 ἀναθημάτων. Ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ Ἰούδας, τὰ διαπέπτωκότα διὰ
τὸν πόλεμον τὸν γεγονότα ἡμῖν ἐπισυνήγαγε πάντα, καὶ ἔστι
15 παρ' ἡμῖν. Ὡν οὖν ἐὰν χρεῖαν ἔχητε, τοὺς ἀποκομιοῦντας ὑμῖν
ἀποστέλλετε.
- 16 Μέλλοντες οὖν ἄγειν τὸν καθαρισμόν, ἐγράψαμεν ὑμῖν·
17 καλῶς οὖν ποιήσετε ἄγοντες τὰς ἡμέρας. Ὁ δὲ Θεὸς ὁ σώσας
τὸν πάντα λαὸν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἀποδοὺς τὴν κληρονομίαν πᾶσι, καὶ
18 τὸ βασίλειον, καὶ τὸ ἱεράτευμα, καὶ τὸν ἁγιασμόν. Καθὼς
ἐπηγγείλατο διὰ τοῦ νόμου ἐλπίζομεν γὰρ ἐπὶ τῷ Θεῷ ὅτι
ταχέως ἡμᾶς ἐλεήσει, καὶ ἐπισυνάξει ἐκ τῆς ὑπὸ τὸν οὐρανὸν
εἰς τὸν ἅγιον τόπον· ἐξείλετο γὰρ ἡμᾶς ἐκ μεγάλων κακῶν, καὶ
τὸν τόπον ἐκαθάρισε.
- 19 Τὰ δὲ κατὰ τὸν Ἰούδαν τὸν Μακκαβαῖον, καὶ τοὺς τούτου
ἀδελφοὺς, καὶ τὸν τοῦ ἱεροῦ τοῦ μεγάλου καθαρισμόν, καὶ τὸν
20 τοῦ βωμοῦ ἐγκαινισμόν, ἔτι τε τοὺς πρὸς Ἀντιοχὸν τὸν
21 Ἐπιφανῆ, καὶ τὸν τούτου υἱὸν Εὐπάτορα πολέμους, καὶ τὰς
ἐξ οὐρανοῦ γενομένας ἐπιφανείας τοῖς ὑπὲρ τοῦ Ἰουδαϊσμοῦ

It is also found in the records, that Jeremy the prophet commanded them that were carried away to take of the fire, as it hath been signified: ² and how that the prophet, having given them the law, charged them not to forget the commandments of the Lord, and that they should not err in their minds, when they see images of silver and gold, with their ornaments. ³ And with other such speeches exhorted he them, that the law should not depart from their hearts.

⁴ It was also contained in the same writing, that the prophet, being warned of God, commanded the tabernacle and the ark to go with him, as he went forth into the mountain, where Moses climbed up, and saw the heritage of God. ⁵ And when Jeremy came thither, he found an hollow cave, wherein he laid the tabernacle, and the ark, and the altar of incense, and so stopped the door.

⁶ And some of those that followed him came to mark the way, but they could not find it. ⁷ Which when Jeremy perceived, he blamed them, saying, As for that place, it shall be unknown until the time that God gather his people again together, and receive them unto mercy. ⁸ Then shall the Lord shew them these things, and the glory of the Lord shall appear, and the cloud also, as it was shewed under Moses, and as when Solomon desired that the place might be honourably sanctified.

⁹ It was also declared, that he being wise offered the sacrifice of dedication, and of the finishing of the temple. ¹⁰ And as when Moses prayed unto the Lord, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the sacrifices: even so prayed Solomon also, and the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offerings. ¹¹ And Moses said, Because the sin offering was not to be eaten, it was consumed. ¹² So Solomon kept those eight days.

¹³ The same things also were reported in the writings and commentaries of Neemias; and how he founding a library gathered together the acts of the kings, and the prophets, and of David, and the epistles of the kings concerning the holy gifts. ¹⁴ In like manner also Judas gathered together all those things that were lost by reason of the war we had, and they remain with us. ¹⁵ Wherefore if ye have need thereof, send some to fetch them unto you.

¹⁶ Whereas we then are about to celebrate the purification, we have written unto you, and ye shall do well, if ye keep the same days. ¹⁷ We hope also, that the God, that delivered all his people, and gave them all an heritage, and the kingdom, and the priesthood, and the sanctuary, ¹⁸ as he promised in the law, will shortly have mercy upon us, and gather us together out of every land under heaven into the holy place: for he hath delivered us out of great troubles, and hath purified the place.

¹⁹ Now as concerning Judas Maccabeus, and his brethren, and the purification of the great temple, and the dedication of the altar, ²⁰ and the wars against Antiochus Epiphanes, and Eupator his son, ²¹ and the manifest signs that came from heaven unto those that behaved themselves manfully to their honour for Judaism: so that, being

but a few, they overcame the whole country, and chased barbarous multitudes, ²²and recovered again the temple renowned all the world over, and freed the city, and upheld the laws which were going down, the Lord being gracious unto them with all favour: ²³*all these things, I say, being declared by Jason of Cyrene in five books, we will assay to abridge in one volume.*

²⁴For considering the infinite number, and the difficulty which they find that desire to look into the narrations of the story, for the variety of the matter, ²⁵we have been careful, that they that will read may have delight, and that they that are desirous to commit to memory might have ease, and that all into whose hands it comes might have profit.

²⁶Therefore to us, that have taken upon us this painful labour of abridging, it was not easy, but a matter of sweat and watching; ²⁷even as it is no ease unto him that prepareth a banquet, and seeketh the benefit of others: yet for the pleasuring of many we will undertake gladly this great pains; ²⁸leaving to the author the exact handling of every particular, and labouring to follow the rules of an abridgement. ²⁹For as the master builder of a new house must care for the whole building: but he that undertaketh to set it out, and paint it, must seek out fit things for the adorning thereof: even so I think it is with us. ³⁰To stand upon every point, and go over things at large, and to be curious in particulars, belongeth to the first author of the story: ³¹but to use brevity, and avoid much labouring of the work, is to be granted to him that will make an abridgement. ³²Here then will we begin the story: only adding thus much to that which hath been said, that it is a foolish thing to make a long prologue, and to be short in the story itself.

Now when the holy city was inhabited with all peace, and the laws were kept very well, because of the godliness of Onias the high priest, and his hatred of wickedness, ²it came to pass that even the kings themselves did honour the place, and magnify the temple with their best gifts; ³insomuch that Seleucus king of Asia of his own revenues bare all the costs belonging to the service of the sacrifices.

⁴But one Simon of the tribe of Benjamin, who was made governor of the temple, fell out with the high priest about disorder in the city. ⁵And when he could not overcome Onias, he gat him to Apollonius the son of Thraseas, who then was governor of Celosyria and Phenice, ⁶and told him that the treasury in Jerusalem was full of infinite sums of money, so that the multitude of their riches, which did not pertain to the account of the sacrifices, was innumerable, and that it was possible to bring all into the king's hand.

⁷Now when Apollonius came to the king, and had shewed him of the money whereof he was told, the king chose out Heliodorus his treasurer, and sent him with a commandment to bring him the foresaid money. ⁸So forthwith Heliodorus took his journey, under a colour of visiting the cities of Celosyria and Phenice, but indeed to fulfil the king's purpose.

φιλοτίμως ἀνδραγαθήσασιν, ὥστε τὴν ὅλην χώραν ὀλίγους ὄντας 22
λεηλατεῖν, καὶ τὰ βάρβαρα πλήθη διώκειν. Καὶ τὸ περιβόη-
τον καθ' ὅλην τὴν οἰκουμένην ἱερὸν ἀνακομίσασθαι, καὶ τὴν
πόλιν ἐλευθερῶσαι, καὶ τοὺς μέλλοντας καταλύεσθαι νόμους
ἐπανορθῶσαι, τοῦ Κυρίου μετὰ πάσης ἐπικεικίας ἴλεω γενομένου
αὐτοῖς, τὰ ὑπὸ Ἰάσωνος τοῦ Κυρηναίου δεδηλωμένα διὰ πέντε 23
βιβλίων, πειρασόμεθα δι' ἐνὸς συντάγματος ἐπιτεμεῖν.

Συνορῶντες γὰρ τὸ χῆμα τῶν ἀριθμῶν, καὶ τὴν οὖσαν δυσχέ- 24
ρειαν τοῖς θέλουσιν εἰσκυκλεῖσθαι τοῖς τῆς ἱστορίας διηγήμασι
διὰ τὸ πλῆθος τῆς ὕλης, ἐφροντίσαμεν τοῖς μὲν βουλομένοις ἀνα- 25
γινώσκειν ψυχαγωγίαν, τοῖς δὲ φιλοφρονοῦσιν εἰς τὸ διὰ μνήμης
ἀναλαβεῖν εὐκοπίαν, πᾶσι δὲ τοῖς ἐντυγχάνουσιν ὠφέλειαν.

Καὶ ἡμῖν μὲν τοῖς τὴν κακοπάθειαν ἐπιδεδεγμένοις τῆς ἐπι- 26
τομῆς οὐ ῥάδιον, ἰδρώτος δὲ καὶ ἀγρυπνίας τὸ πρᾶγμα· καθάπερ 27
τῷ παρασκευάζοντι συμπόσιον, καὶ ζητοῦντι τὴν ἐτέρων λυσιτέ-
λειαν οὐκ εὐχερὲς μὲν, ὅμως διὰ τὴν τῶν πολλῶν εὐχαριστίαν,
ἡδέως τὴν κακοπάθειαν ὑποίσομεν, τὸ μὲν διακριβοῦν περὶ 28
ἐκάστων τῷ συγγραφεῖ παραχωρήσαντες, τὸ δὲ ἐπιπορεύεσθαι
τοῖς ὑπογραμμοῖς τῆς ἐπιτομῆς διαπονοῦντες. Καθάπερ γὰρ τῆς 29
καινῆς οἰκίας ἀρχιτέκτονι τῆς ὅλης καταβολῆς φροντιστέον, τῷ
δὲ ἐγκαίειν καὶ ζωγραφεῖν ἐπιχειροῦντι, τὰ ἐπιτήδεια πρὸς δια-
κόσμησιν ἐξεταστέον· οὕτω δοκῶ καὶ ἐπὶ ἡμῖν. Τὸ μὲν ἐμβα- 30
τεῦειν, καὶ περὶ πάντων ποιεῖσθαι λόγον, καὶ πολυπραγμονεῖν
ἐν τοῖς καταμέρος, τῷ τῆς ἱστορίας ἀρχηγέτῃ καθήκει. Τὸ δὲ 31
σύντομον τῆς λέξεως μεταδιώκειν, καὶ τὸ ἐξεργαστικὸν τῆς
πραγματείας παραιτεῖσθαι, τῷ τὴν μετάφρασιν ποιουμένῳ
συγχωρητέον. Ἐντεῦθεν οὖν ἀρξόμεθα τῆς διηγῆσεως, τοῖς 32
προειρημένοις τοσοῦτον ἐπιζεύξαντες· εὐθες γὰρ τὸ μὲν πρὸ
τῆς ἱστορίας πλεονάζειν, τὴν δὲ ἱστορίαν ἐπιτεμεῖν.

Τῆς ἀγίας τοίνυν πόλεως κατοικουμένης μετὰ πάσης εἰρήνης, 3
καὶ τῶν νόμων ἔτι κάλλιστα συντηρουμένων διὰ τὴν Ὀνίου τοῦ
ἀρχιερέως εὐσέβειάν τε καὶ μισοπονηρίαν, συνέβαινε καὶ αὐτοὺς 2
τοὺς βασιλεῖς τιμᾶν τὸν τόπον, καὶ τὸ ἱερὸν ἀποστολαῖς ταῖς
κρατίσταις δοξάζειν, ὥστε καὶ Σέλευκον τὸν τῆς Ἀσίας βασιλέα 3
χορηγεῖν ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων προσόδων πάντα τὰ πρὸς τὰς λειτουργίας
τῶν θυσίων ἐπιβάλλοντα δαπανήματα.

Σίμων δὲ τις ἐκ τῆς Βενιαμὶν φυλῆς προστάτης τοῦ ἱεροῦ 4
καθεσταμένος, διηνέχθη τῷ ἀρχιερεῖ περὶ τῆς κατὰ τὴν πόλιν
παρανομίας· καὶ νικῆσαι τὸν Ὀνίαν μὴ δυνάμενος, ἦλθε πρὸς 5
Ἀπολλώνιον Θρασαίου, τὸν κατ' ἐκείνον τὸν καιρὸν κοιλῆς
Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης στρατηγόν. Καὶ προσήγγειλε περὶ τοῦ 6
χρημάτων ἀμυθῆτων γέμειν τὸ ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις γαζοφυλάκιον,
ὥστε τὸ πλῆθος τῶν διαφόρων ἐναρίθμητον εἶναι, καὶ μὴ προσ-
ήκειν αὐτὰ πρὸς τὸν τῶν θυσίων λόγον, εἶναι δὲ δυνατόν ὑπὸ τὴν
τοῦ βασιλέως ἐξουσίαν πεσεῖν ἅπαντα ταῦτα.

Συμμίσας δὲ ὁ Ἀπολλώνιος τῷ βασιλεῖ, περὶ τῶν μηνυθέντων 7
αὐτῷ χρημάτων ἐνεφάνισεν· ὁ δὲ προχειρισάμενος Ἡλιόδωρον
τὸν ἐπὶ τῶν πραγμάτων, ἀπέστειλε δούς ἐντολὰς, τὴν τῶν προει-
ρημένων χρημάτων ἐκκομιδὴν ποιήσασθαι. Εὐθέως δὲ ὁ Ἡλιό- 8
δωρος ἐπιδίειτο τὴν παρείαν, τῇ μὲν ἐμφάσει ὥς τὰς κατὰ
κοίλῃν Συρίαν καὶ Φοινίκην πόλεις ἐφοδεύσων, τῷ πράγματι δὲ
τὴν τοῦ βασιλέως πρόθεσιν ἐπιτελέσων.

- 9 Παραγενθῆναι δὲ εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα, καὶ φιλοφρόνως ὑπὸ τοῦ ἀρχιερέως τῆς πόλεως ἀποδεχθεὶς, ἀνέθετο περὶ τοῦ γεγονότος ἐμφανισμοῦ, καὶ τίνος ἔνεκεν πάρεστι διεσάφησεν· ἐπυνθάνετο δὲ εἰ ταῖς ἀληθείαις ταῦτα οὕτως ἔχοντα τυγχάνει.
- 10 Τοῦ δὲ ἀρχιερέως ὑποδείξαντος παραθήκας εἶναι χηρῶν τε καὶ ὀρφανῶν, τινὰ δὲ καὶ Ὑρκανοῦ τοῦ Τωβίου σφόδρα ἀνδρὸς ἐν ὑπεροχῇ κειμένου, οὐχ ὥσπερ ἦν διαβάλλον ὁ δυσσεβὴς Σίμων, τὰ δὲ πάντα ἀργυρίου τετρακόσια τάλαντα, χρυσίου δὲ διακόσια·
- 12 ἀδικηθῆναι δὲ τοὺς πεπιστευκότας τῇ τοῦ τόπου ἀγιοσύνῃ, καὶ τῇ τοῦ τετιμημένου κατὰ τὸν σύμπαντα κόσμον ἱεροῦ σεμνότητι καὶ ἀσυλίᾳ, παντελῶς ἀμήχανον εἶναι.
- 13 Ὁ δὲ Ἡλιόδωρος δι' ἃς εἶχε βασιλικὰς ἐντολὰς, πάντως
- 14 ἔλεγεν εἰς τὸ βασιλικὸν ἀναληπτέα ταῦτα εἶναι. Ταξάμενος δὲ ἡμέραν εἰσῆει τὴν περὶ τούτων ἐπίσκεψιν οἰκονομήσων· ἦν δὲ
- 15 οὐ μικρὰ καθ' ὅλην τὴν πόλιν ἀγωνία. Οἱ δὲ ἱερεῖς πρὸ τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου ἐν ταῖς ἱερατικαῖς στολαῖς ῥύψαντες ἑαυτοὺς, ἐπεκαλοῦντο εἰς οὐρανὸν τὸν περὶ παραθήκης νομοθετήσαντα τοῖς παρακαταθεμένοις ταῦτα σῶα διαφυλάξαι.
- 16 Ἦν δὲ ὁρῶντα τὴν τοῦ ἀρχιερέως ἰδέαν, τιτρώσκεσθαι τὴν διάνοιαν· ἡ γὰρ ὄψις καὶ τὸ τῆς χροᾶς παρηλλαγμένον ἐνέφαινε
- 17 τὴν κατὰ ψυχὴν ἀγωνίαν. Περιεκέχυτο γὰρ περὶ τὸν ἄνδρα δέος τι καὶ φρικασμὸς σώματος, δι' ὧν πρόδηλον ἐγένετο τοῖς θεωροῦσι τὸ κατὰ καρδίαν ἐνεστὸς ἄλγος.
- 18 Οἱ δὲ ἐκ τῶν οἰκίῶν ἀγγεληδὸν ἐξεπῆδων ἐπὶ πάνδημον ἰκετείαν, διὰ τὸ μέλλειν εἰς καταφρόνησιν ἔρχεσθαι τὸν τόπον.
- 19 Ὑπεζωσμένοι δὲ ὑπὸ τοὺς μαστοὺς αἱ γυναῖκες σάκκους κατὰ τὰς ὁδοὺς ἐπλήθυνον· αἱ δὲ κατάκλειστοι τῶν παρθένων, αἱ μὲν συνέτρεχον ἐπὶ τοὺς πυλῶνας, αἱ δὲ ἐπὶ τὰ τείχη, τινὲς δὲ διὰ
- 20 τῶν θυρίδων διεξέκυπτον. Πᾶσαι δὲ προτείνουσιν τὰς χεῖρας εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν, ἐποιοῦντο τὴν λιτανείαν.
- 21 Ἐλεεῖν δ' ἦν τὴν τοῦ πλήθους παμμιγῇ πρόπτωσιν, τὴν τε
- 22 τοῦ μεγάλως διαγωνιῶντος ἀρχιερέως προσδοκίαν. Οἱ μὲν οὖν ἐπεκαλοῦντο τὸν παντοκράτορα Θεὸν τὰ πεπιστευμένα τοῖς πεπιστευκόσι σῶα διαφυλάγγειν μετὰ πάσης ἀσφαλείας.
- 23 Ὁ δὲ Ἡλιόδωρος τὸ διεγνωσμένον ἐπετέλει.
- 24 Αὐτόθι δὲ αὐτοῦ σὺν τοῖς δορυφόροις κατὰ τὸ γαζοφυλάκιον ἤδη παρόντος, ὁ τῶν πατέρων Κύριος καὶ πάσης ἐξουσίας δυνάστης ἐπιφάνειαν μεγάλην ἐποίησεν, ὥστε πάντας τοὺς κατατολήσαντας συνελθεῖν, καταπλαγέντας τὴν τοῦ Θεοῦ δύναμιν, εἰς
- 25 ἔκλυσιν καὶ δειλίαν τραπήναι. Ὡφθη γάρ τις ἵππος αὐτοῖς φοβερὸν ἔχων τὸν ἐπιβάτην, καὶ καλλίστη σαγῇ διακεκοσμημένος, φερόμενος δὲ ῥύδην ἐνέσεισε τῷ Ἡλιόδωρῳ τὰς ἐμπροσθίους ὀπλάς· ὁ δὲ ἐπικαθήμενος ἐφαίνετο χρυσοῦν πανοπλίαν ἔχων.
- 26 Ἄλλοι δὲ δύο προεφάνησαν αὐτῷ νεανίαί, τῇ ῥώμῃ μὲν ἐκπρεπεῖς, κάλλιστοι δὲ τῇ δόξῃ, διαπρεπεῖς δὲ τὴν περιβολήν·

9 And when he was come to Jerusalem, and had been courteously received of the high priest of the city, he told him what intelligence was given of the money, and declared wherefore he came, and asked if these things were so indeed.

10 Then the high priest told him that there was such money laid up for the relief of widows and fatherless children: 11 and that some of it belonged to Hircanus son of Tobias, a man of great dignity, and not as that wicked Simon had misinformed: the sum whereof in all was four hundred talents of silver, and two hundred of gold: 12 and that it was altogether impossible that such wrongs should be done unto them, that had committed it to the holiness of the place, and to the majesty and inviolable sanctity of the temple, honoured over all the world.

13 But Heliodorus, because of the king's commandment given him, said, That in any wise it must be brought into the king's treasury. 14 So at the day which he appointed he entered in to order this matter: wherefore there was no small agony throughout the whole city. 15 But the priests, prostrating themselves before the altar in their priests' vestments, called unto heaven upon him that made a law concerning things given to be kept, that they should safely be preserved for such as had committed them to be kept.

16 Then whoso had looked the high priest in the face, it would have wounded his heart: for his countenance and the changing of his colour declared the inward agony of his mind. 17 For the man was so compassed with fear and horror of the body, that it was manifest to them that looked upon him, what sorrow he had now in his heart.

18 Others ran flocking out of their houses to the general supplication, because the place was like to come into contempt. 19 And the women, girt with sackcloth under their breasts, abounded in the streets, and the virgins that were kept in ran, some to the gates, and some to the walls, and others looked out of the windows. 20 And all, holding their hands toward heaven, made supplication.

21 Then it would have pitied a man to see the falling down of the multitude of all sorts, and the fear of the high priest, being in such an agony. 22 They then called upon the Almighty Lord to keep the things committed of trust safe and sure for those that had committed them.

23 Nevertheless Heliodorus executed that which was decreed.

24 Now as he was there present himself with his guard about the treasury, the Lord of spirits, and the Prince of all power, caused a great apparition, so that all that presumed to come in with him were astonished at the power of God, and fainted, and were sore afraid. 25 For there appeared unto them an horse with a terrible rider upon him, and adorned with a very fair covering, and he ran fiercely, and smote at Heliodorus with his forefeet, and it seemed that he that sat upon the horse had complete harness of gold.

26 Moreover two other young men appeared before him, notable in strength, excellent in beauty, and comely in apparel,

who stood by him on either side, and scourged him continually, and gave him many sore stripes.

²⁷ And Heliodorus fell suddenly unto the ground, and was compassed with great darkness: but they that were with him took him up, and put him into a litter. ²⁸ Thus him, that lately came with a great train and with all his guard into the said treasury, they carried out, being unable to help himself with his weapons: and manifestly they acknowledged the power of God: ²⁹ for he by the hand of God was cast down, and lay speechless without all hope of life. ³⁰ But they praised the Lord, that had miraculously honoured his own place: for the temple, which a little afore was full of fear and trouble, when the Almighty Lord appeared, was filled with joy and gladness.

³¹ Then straightways certain of Heliodorus' friends prayed Onias, that he would call upon the most High to grant him his life, who lay ready to give up the ghost. ³² So the high priest, suspecting lest the king should misconceive that some treachery had been done to Heliodorus by the Jews, offered a sacrifice for the health of the man.

³³ Now as the high priest was making an atonement, the same young men in the same clothing appeared and stood beside Heliodorus, saying, give Onias the high priest great thanks, inasmuch as for his sake the Lord hath granted thee life: ³⁴ and seeing that thou hast been scourged from heaven, declare unto all men the mighty power of God. And when they had spoken these words, they appeared no more.

³⁵ So Heliodorus, after he had offered sacrifice unto the Lord, and made great vows unto him that had saved his life, and saluted Onias, returned with his host to the king. ³⁶ Then testified he to all men the works of the great God, which he had seen with his eyes.

³⁷ And when the king asked Heliodorus, who might be a fit man to be sent yet once again to Jerusalem, he said, ³⁸ If thou hast any enemy or traitor, send him thither, and thou shalt receive him well scourged, if he escape with his life: for in that place, no doubt, there is an especial power of God. ³⁹ For he that dwelleth in heaven hath his eye on that place, and defendeth it; and he beateth and destroyeth them that come to hurt it.

⁴⁰ And the things concerning Heliodorus, and the keeping of the treasury, fell out on this sort.

This Simon now, of whom we spake afore, having been a bewrayer of the money, and of his country, slandered Onias, as if he had terrified Heliodorus, and been the worker of these evils. ² Thus was he bold to call him a traitor, that had deserved well of the city, and tendered his own nation, and was so zealous of the laws.

³ But when their hatred went so far, that by one of Simon's faction murders were committed, ⁴ Onias seeing the danger of this contention, and that Apollonius, as being the governor of Celosyria and Phenice, did rage, and increase Simon's malice. ⁵ He went to the king, not to be an accuser of his countrymen, but seeking the good of all, both public and private: ⁶ for he saw

οἱ καὶ παραστάντες ἐξ ἑκατέρου μέρους, ἐμαστίγουν αὐτὸν ἀδιαλείπτως, πολλὰς ἐπιρρίπτουντες αὐτῷ πληγὰς.

* Ἀφνω δὲ πεσόντα πρὸς τὴν γῆν, καὶ πολλῷ σκότει περιχυ- 27
θέντα, συναρπάσαντες, καὶ εἰς φορεῖον ἐνθέντες, τὸν ἄρτι μετὰ 28
πολλῆς παραδρομῆς καὶ πάσης δορυφορίας εἰς τὸ προειρημένον
εἰσελθόντα γαζοφυλάκιον, ἔφερον ἀβοήθητον ἑαυτῷ καθεστῶτα,
φανερῶς τὴν τοῦ Θεοῦ δυναστείαν ἐπεγνωκότες. Καὶ ὁ μὲν διὰ 29
τὴν θείαν ἐνέργειαν ἄφωνος καὶ πάσης ἐστερημένος ἐλπίδος καὶ
σωτηρίας ἔρριπτο. Οἱ δὲ τὸν Κύριον εὐλόγουν τὸν παρα- 30
δοξάζοντα τὸν ἑαυτοῦ τόπον· καὶ τὸ μικρῷ πρότερον δέους καὶ
ταραχῆς γέμον ἱερὸν, τοῦ παντοκράτορος ἐπιφανέντος Κυρίου,
χαρὰς καὶ εὐφροσύνης ἐπεπλήρωτο.

Ταχὺ δέ τινες τῶν τοῦ Ἡλιοδώρου συνήθων ἠξίουσαν τὸν 31
Ὀνίαν ἐπικαλέσασθαι τὸν ὑψιστον, καὶ τὸ ζῆν χαρίσασθαι τῷ
παντελῶς ἐν ἐσχάτῃ πνοῇ κειμένῳ. Ὑποπτος δὲ γενόμενος ὁ 32
ἀρχιερεὺς, μήποτε διάληψιν ὁ βασιλεὺς σχῇ, κακουργίαν τινὰ
περὶ τὸν Ἡλιόδωρον ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων συντετελεῖσθαι, προσ-
ήγαγε θυσίαν ὑπὲρ τῆς τοῦ ἀνδρὸς σωτηρίας.

Ποιουμένου δὲ τοῦ ἀρχιερέως τὸν ἱλασμόν, οἱ αὐτοὶ νεανίαι 33
πάλιν ἐφάνησαν τῷ Ἡλιοδώρῳ ἐν ταῖς αὐταῖς ἐσθήσεσιν ἐστο-
λισμένοι, καὶ στάντες εἶπον, πολλὰς τῷ Ὀνίᾳ τῷ ἀρχιερεῖ
χάριτας ἔχε, διὰ γὰρ αὐτόν σοι κεχάρισται τὸ ζῆν ὁ Κύριος.
Σὺ δὲ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ μεμαστιγωμένος διάγγελε πᾶσι τὸ μεγαλεῖον 34
τοῦ Θεοῦ κράτος· ταῦτα δὲ εἰπόντες ἀφανεῖς ἐγένοντο.

Ὁ δὲ Ἡλιόδωρος θυσίαν ἀνενέγκας τῷ Κυρίῳ, καὶ εὐχὰς 35
μεγίστας εὐξάμενος τῷ τὸ ζῆν περιποιήσαντι, καὶ τὸν Ὀνίαν
ἀποδεξάμενος, ἀνεστρατοπέδευσε πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα. Ἐξεμαρ- 36
τύρει δὲ πᾶσιν ἅπερ ἦν ὑπ' ὅψιν τεθεαμένος ἔργα τοῦ μεγίστου
Θεοῦ.

Τοῦ δὲ βασιλέως ἐπερωτήσαντος τὸν Ἡλιόδωρον, ποῖός τις 37
εἶη ἐπιτήδειος ἐτι ἅπαξ διαπεμφθῆναι εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα, ἔφησεν,
εἴ τινα ἔχεις πολέμιον ἢ πραγμάτων ἐπίβουλον, πέμψον αὐτὸν 38
ἐκεῖ, καὶ μεμαστιγωμένον αὐτὸν προσδέξῃ, ἕάνπερ καὶ διασω-
θείη, διὰ τὸ περὶ τὸν τόπον ἀληθῶς εἶναι τινα Θεοῦ δύναμιν.
Αὐτὸς γὰρ ὁ τὴν κατοικίαν ἐπουράνιον ἔχων, ἐπόπτης ἐστὶ καὶ 39
βοηθὸς ἐκείνου τοῦ τόπου, καὶ τοὺς παραγινόμενους ἐπὶ κακώσει,
τύπτων ἀπόλλυσι.

Καὶ τὰ μὲν κατὰ Ἡλιόδωρον, καὶ τὴν τοῦ γαζοφυλακίου 40
τήρησιν οὕτως ἐχώρησεν.

Ὁ δὲ προειρημένος Σίμων ὁ τῶν χρημάτων καὶ τῆς πατρίδος 4
ἐνδείκτης γεγονώς, ἐκακολόγει τὸν Ὀνίαν, ὡς αὐτὸς τε εἶη τὸν
Ἡλιόδωρον ἐπισεσικῶς, καὶ τῶν κακῶν δημιουργὸς καθεστηκώς.
Καὶ τὸν εὐεργέτην τῆς πόλεως, καὶ τὸν κηδεμόνα τῶν ὁμοεθνῶν, καὶ 2
ζηλωτὴν τῶν νόμων, ἐπίβουλον τῶν πραγμάτων ἐτόλμα λέγειν.

Τῆς δὲ ἔχθρας ἐπὶ τοσούτον προβαινούσης, ὥστε καὶ διὰ 3
τινος τῶν ὑπὸ τοῦ Σίμωνος δεδοκιμασμένων φόνους συντε-
λεῖσθαι, συνορῶν ὁ Ὀνίας τὸ χालεπὸν τῆς φιλονεικίας, καὶ 4
Ἀπολλώνιον μαίνεισθαι, ὡς τὸν κοίλης Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης
στρατηγὸν, συναύξοντα τὴν κακίαν τοῦ Σίμωνος, ὡς τὸν βασι- 5
λέα διεκομίσθη, οὐ γινόμενος τῶν πολιτῶν κατήγορος, τὸ δὲ
συμφέρον κοινῇ κατ' ἰδίαν παντὶ τῷ πλήθει σκοπῶν. Ἐώρα 6

γὰρ ἄνευ βασιλικῆς προνοίας ἀδύνατον εἶναι τυχεῖν εἰρήνης ἔτι τὰ πράγματα, καὶ τὸν Σίμωνα παῦλαν οὐ ληψόμενον τῆς ἀνοίας.

- 7 Μεταλλάξαντος δὲ τὸν βίον Σελεύκου, καὶ παραλαβόντος τὴν βασιλείαν Ἀντιόχου τοῦ προσαγορευθέντος Ἐπιφανοῦς,
- 8 ὑπενόθευσεν Ἰάσων ὁ ἀδελφὸς Ὀνίου τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην, ἐπαγγελάμενος τῷ βασιλεῖ δι' ἐντεύξεως ἀργυρίου τάλαντα ἐξήκοντα πρὸς τοῖς τριακοσίοις, καὶ προσόδου τινὸς ἄλλης τάλαντα
- 9 ὀγδοήκοντα, πρὸς δὲ τούτοις ὑπισχνεῖτο καὶ ἕτερα διαγράψαι πεντήκοντα πρὸς τοῖς ἑκατὸν, ἐὰν συγχωρηθῇ διὰ τῆς ἐξουσίας αὐτοῦ, γυμνάσιον καὶ ἐφηβίαν αὐτῷ συστήσασθαι, καὶ τοὺς ἐν
- 10 Ἱεροσολύμοις Ἀντιοχεῖς ἀναγράψαι. Ἐπινεύσαντος δὲ τοῦ βασιλέως, καὶ τῆς ἀρχῆς κρατήσας, εὐθέως ἐπὶ τὸν Ἑλληνικὸν χαρακτῆρα τοὺς ὁμοφύλους μετήγε.
- 11 Καὶ τὰ κείμενα τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις φιλάνθρωπα βασιλικά διὰ Ἰωάννου τοῦ πατρὸς Εὐπολέμου, τοῦ ποιησαμένου τὴν πρεσβείαν ὑπὲρ φιλίας καὶ συμμαχίας πρὸς τοὺς Ῥωμαίους, παρώσατο· καὶ τὰς μὲν νομίμους καταλύων πολιτείας, παρανόμους
- 12 ἐθισμοὺς ἐκαίνιζεν. Ἀσμένως γὰρ ὑπ' αὐτὴν τὴν ἀκρόπολιν γυμνάσιον καθίδρυσε, καὶ τοὺς κρατίστους τῶν ἐφήβων ὑποτάσων, ὑπὸ πέτασον ἤγεν.
- 13 Ἦν δ' οὕτως ἀκμή τις Ἑλληνισμοῦ, καὶ πρόσβασις ἄλλοφυλισμοῦ διὰ τὴν τοῦ ἀσεβοῦς καὶ οὐκ ἀρχιερέως Ἰάσωνος
- 14 ὑπερβάλλουσιν ἀναγνείαν, ὥστε μηκέτι περὶ τὰς τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου λειτουργίας προθύμους εἶναι τοὺς ἱερεῖς, ἀλλὰ τοῦ μὲν ναοῦ καταφρονούντες, καὶ τῶν θυσιῶν ἀμελοῦντες ἔσπευδον μετέχειν τῆς ἐν παλαίστρᾳ παρανόμου χορηγίας, μετὰ τὴν τοῦ
- 15 δίσκου πρόκλησιν. Καὶ τὰς μὲν πατρώους τιμὰς ἐν οὐδενὶ τίθενται, τὰς δὲ Ἑλληνικὰς δόξας καλλίστας ἡγούμενοι.
- 16 Ὡν χάριν περιέσχεν αὐτοὺς χालεπὴ περίστασις, καὶ ὧν ἐξήλουν τὰς ἀγωγὰς, καὶ καθάπαν ἤθελον ἐξομοιοῦσθαι, τοὺς
- 17 πολεμίους καὶ τιμωρητὰς ἔσχον. Ἀσεβεῖν γὰρ εἰς τοὺς θεοὺς νόμους οὐ ῥάδιον, ἀλλὰ ταῦτα ὁ ἀκόλουθος καιρὸς δηλώσει.
- 18 Ἀγομένου δὲ πενταετηρικοῦ ἀγῶνος ἐν Τύρῳ, καὶ τοῦ βασι-
- 19 λέως παρόντος, ἀπέστειλεν Ἰάσων ὁ μιὰς θεωρὸς ἀπὸ Ἱεροσολύμων Ἀντιοχεῖς ὄντας, παρακομίζοντας ἀργυρίου δραχμὰς τριακοσίας εἰς τὴν τοῦ Ἡρακλέους θυσίαν· ἃς καὶ ἡξίωσαν οἱ παρακομίσαντες μὴ χρῆσθαι πρὸς θυσίαν διὰ τὸ μὴ καθήκειν,
- 20 εἰς ἐτέραν δὲ καταθέσθαι δαπάνην. Ἐπεμψεν οὖν ταῦτα, διὰ μὲν τὸν ἀποστείλαντα εἰς τὴν τοῦ Ἡρακλέους θυσίαν, ἕνεκεν δὲ τῶν παρακομίζοντων, εἰς τὰς τῶν τριήρων κατασκευάς.
- 21 Ἀποσταλέντος δὲ εἰς Αἴγυπτον Ἀπολλωνίου τοῦ Μενεσθέως διὰ τὰ πρωτοκλίσια Πτολεμαίου τοῦ Φιλομήτορος βασιλέως, μεταλαβὼν Ἀντίοχος ἀλλότριον αὐτὸν τῶν αὐτῶν γεγονέναι πραγμάτων, τῆς κατ' αὐτὸν ἀσφαλείας ἐφρόντιζεν· ὅθεν εἰς
- 22 Ἰόππην παραγενόμενος, κατήντησεν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα. Μεγαλοπρεπῶς δὲ ὑπὸ τοῦ Ἰάσωνος καὶ τῆς πόλεως παραδεχθεὶς, μετὰ δαδουχίας καὶ βοῶν εἰσπεπόρευται, εἰθ' οὕτως εἰς τὴν Φοινίκην κατεστρατοπέδευσε.
- 23 Μετὰ δὲ τριετὴ χρόνον ἀπέστειλεν Ἰάσων Μενέλαον τὸν

that it was impossible that the state should continue quiet, and Simon leave his folly, unless the king did look thereunto.

⁷ But after the death of Seleucus, when Antiochus, called Epiphanes, took the kingdom, Jason the brother of Onias laboured underhand to be high priest, ⁸ promising unto the king by intercession three hundred and threescore talents of silver, and of another revenue eighty talents: ⁹ beside this, he promised to assign an hundred and fifty more, if he might have licence to set him up a place for exercise, and for the training up of youth in the fashion of the heathen, and to write them of Jerusalem *by the name of Antiochians*. ¹⁰ Which when the king had granted, and he had gotten into his hand the rule, he forthwith brought his own nation to the Greekish fashion.

¹¹ And the royal privileges granted of special favour to the Jews by the means of John the father of Eupolemus, who went ambassador to Rome for amity and aid, he took away; and putting down the governments which were according to the law, he brought up new customs against the law: ¹² for he built gladly a place of exercise under the tower itself, and brought the chief young men under his subjection, and made them wear a hat.

¹³ Now such was the height of Greek fashions, and increase of heathenish manners, through the exceeding profaneness of Jason, that ungodly wretch, and no high priest; ¹⁴ that the priests had no courage to serve any more at the altar, but despising the temple, and neglecting the sacrifices, hastened to be partakers of the unlawful allowance in the place of exercise, after the game of Discus called them forth; ¹⁵ not setting by the honours of their fathers, but liking the glory of the Grecians best of all.

¹⁶ By reason whereof sore calamity came upon them: for they had them to be their enemies and avengers, whose custom they followed so earnestly, and unto whom they desired to be like in all things. ¹⁷ For it is not a light thing to do wickedly against the laws of God; but the time following shall declare these things.

¹⁸ Now when the game that was used every fifth year was kept at Tyrus, the king being present, ¹⁹ this ungracious Jason sent special messengers from Jerusalem, who were Antiochians, to carry three hundred drachms of silver to the sacrifice of Hercules, which even the bearers thereof thought fit not to bestow upon the sacrifice, because it was not convenient, but to be reserved for other charges. ²⁰ This money then, in regard of the sender, was appointed to Hercules' sacrifice; but because of the bearers thereof, it was employed to the making of gallies.

²¹ Now when Apollonius the son of Menes-theus was sent into Egypt for the coronation of king Ptolemy Philometor, Antiochus, understanding him not to be well affected to his affairs, provided for his own safety: whereupon he came to Joppe, and from thence to Jerusalem: ²² where he was honourably received of Jason, and of the city, and was brought in with torch light, and with great shoutings: and so afterward went with his host unto Phenice.

²³ Three years afterward Jason sent

Menelaus, the aforesaid Simon's brother, to bear the money unto the king, and to put him in mind of certain necessary matters. ²⁴ But he being brought to the presence of the king, when he had magnified him for the glorious appearance of his power, got the priesthood to himself, offering more than Jason by three hundred talents of silver. ²⁵ So he came with the king's mandate, bringing nothing worthy the high priesthood, but having the fury of a cruel tyrant, and the rage of a savage beast.

²⁶ Then Jason, who had undermined his own brother, being undermined by another, was compelled to flee into the country of the Ammonites. ²⁷ So Menelaus got the principality: but as for the money that he had promised unto the king, he took no good order for it, albeit Sostratus the ruler of the castle required it: ²⁸ for unto him appertained the gathering of the customs. Wherefore they were both called before the king.

²⁹ Now Menelaus left his brother Lysimachus in his stead in the priesthood: and Sostratus left Crates, who was governor of the Cyprians.

³⁰ While those things were in doing, they of Tarsus and Mallos made insurrection, because they were given to the king's concubine, called Antiochis. ³¹ Then came the king in all haste to appease matters, leaving Andronicus, a man in authority, for his deputy.

³² Now Menelaus, supposing that he had gotten a convenient time, stole certain vessels of gold out of the temple, and gave some of them to Andronicus, and some he sold into Tyrus and the cities round about. ³³ Which when Onias knew of a surety, he reprov'd him, and withdrew himself into a sanctuary at Daphne, that lieth by Antiochia.

³⁴ Wherefore Menelaus, taking Andronicus apart, prayed him to get Onias into his hands; who being persuaded thereunto, and coming to Onias in deceit, gave him his right hand with oaths; and though he were suspected by him, yet persuaded he him to come forth of the sanctuary: whom forthwith he shut up without regard to justice. ³⁵ For the which cause not only the Jews, but many also of other nations, took great indignation, and were much grieved for the unjust murder of the man.

³⁶ And when the king was come again from the places about Cilicia, the Jews that were in the city, and certain of the Greeks that abhorred the fact also, complained because Onias was slain without cause. ³⁷ Therefore Antiochus was heartily sorry, and moved to pity, and wept, because of the sober and modest behaviour of him that was dead. ³⁸ And being kindled with anger, forthwith he took away Andronicus his purple, and rent off his clothes, and leading him through the whole city unto that very place, where he had committed impiety against Onias, there slew he the cursed murderer. Thus the Lord rewarded him his punishment, as he had deserved.

³⁹ Now when many sacrileges had been committed in the city by Lysimachus with the consent of Menelaus, and the bruit thereof was spread abroad, the multitude gathered themselves together against Lysi-

τοῦ προσημαινομένου Σίμωνος ἀδελφόν, παρακομίζοντα τὰ χρήματα τῷ βασιλεῖ, καὶ περὶ πραγμάτων ἀναγκαίων ὑπομνηματισμοὺς τελέσοντα. Ὁ δὲ συσταθεὶς τῷ βασιλεῖ, καὶ δοξάσας ²⁴ αὐτὸν τῷ προσώπῳ τῆς ἐξουσίας, εἰς ἑαυτὸν κατήντησε τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην, ὑπερβαλὼν τὸν Ἰάσωνα τάλαντα ἀργυρίου τριακόσια. Λαβὼν δὲ τὰς βασιλικὰς ἐντολὰς παρεγένετο, τῆς μὲν ²⁵ ἀρχιερωσύνης οὐδὲν ἄξιον φέρων, θυμοὺς δὲ ὤμου τυράννου, καὶ θηρὸς βαρβάρου ὄργας ἔχων.

Καὶ ὁ μὲν Ἰάσων ὁ τὸν ἴδιον ἀδελφὸν ὑπονοθεύσας, ὑπονοθευθεὶς ὑφ' ἐτέρου φυγὰς εἰς τὴν Ἀρμανίτιν χώραν συνήλαστο. Ὁ δὲ Μενέλαος τῆς μὲν ἀρχῆς ἐκράτει, τῶν δὲ ἐπηγγελμένων ²⁷ τῷ βασιλεῖ χρημάτων οὐδὲν εὐτάκει, ποιουνένοι δὲ τὴν ἀπαίτησιν Σωστράτου τοῦ τῆς ἀκροπόλεως ἐπάρχου· πρὸς τοῦτον ²⁸ γὰρ ἦν ἡ τῶν φόρων πράξις· δι' ἣν αἰτίαν οἱ δύο ὑπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως προσεκληθήσαν.

Καὶ ὁ μὲν Μενέλαος ἀπέλιπε τῆς ἀρχιερωσύνης διάδοχον ²⁹ Λυσίμαχον τὸν ἑαυτοῦ ἀδελφόν, Σώστρατος δὲ, Κράτητα τὸν ἐπὶ τῶν Κυπρίων.

Τοιούτων δὲ συνεστηκότων, συνέβη Ταρσεῖς, καὶ Μαλλώτας ³⁰ στασιάζειν, διὰ τὸ Ἀντιοχίδι τῇ παλλακῇ τοῦ βασιλέως ἐν δωρεᾷ δεδόσθαι. Θάπτον οὖν ὁ βασιλεὺς ἤκε καταστεῖλαι τὰ ³¹ πράγματα, καταλιπὼν τὸν διαδεχόμενον Ἀνδρόνικον, τῶν ἐν ἀξιώματι κειμένων.

Νομίσας δὲ ὁ Μενέλαος εἰληφέναι καιρὸν εὐφυνῇ, χρυσώ- ³² ματά τινα τῶν τοῦ ἱεροῦ νοσφισάμενος ἐχαρίσατο τῷ Ἀνδρονίκῳ, καὶ ἕτερα ἐτύγχανε πεπρακὼς εἰς τε Τύρον καὶ τὰς κύκλω πόλεις. Ἄ καὶ σαφῶς ἐπεγνωκὼς ὁ Ὀνίας, παρήλεγχεν ἀποκε- ³³ χωρηκὼς εἰς ἄσυλον τόπον, ἐπὶ Δάφνης τῆς πρὸς Ἀντιόχειαν κειμένης.

Ὅθεν ὁ Μενέλαος λαβὼν ἰδίᾳ τὸν Ἀνδρόνικον, παρεκάλει ³⁴ χειρώσασθαι τὸν Ὀνίαν· ὁ δὲ παραγενόμενος ἐπὶ τὸν Ὀνίαν, καὶ πεισθεὶς ἐπὶ δόλῳ, καὶ δεξιᾷ μεθ' ὄρκων δούς, καίπερ ἐν ὑποψίᾳ κείμενος ἐπεισεν ἐκ τοῦ ἀσύλου προελθεῖν, ὃν καὶ παραχρῆμα παρέκλεισεν, οὐκ αἰδεσθεὶς τὸ δίκαιον. Δι' ἣν ³⁵ αἰτίαν οὐ μόνον Ἰουδαῖοι, πολλοὶ δὲ καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἐθνῶν ἐδείναζον, καὶ ἐδυσφόρουν ἐπὶ τῷ τοῦ ἀνδρὸς ἀδίκῳ φόνῳ.

Τοῦ δὲ βασιλέως ἐπανελθόντος ἀπὸ τῶν κατὰ Κιλικίαν τόπων, ³⁶ ἐνετύγχανον οἱ κατὰ πόλιν Ἰουδαῖοι συμμισεπονηρούντων καὶ τῶν Ἑλλήνων, ὑπὲρ τοῦ παρὰ λόγον τὸν Ὀνίαν ἀπεκτάνθαι. Ψυχικῶς οὖν ὁ Ἀντίοχος ἐπιλυπηθεὶς, καὶ τραπεῖς εἰς ἔλεον, καὶ ³⁷ δακρύσας διὰ τὴν τοῦ μετηλλαχότος σωφροσύνην, καὶ πολλὴν εὐταξίαν, καὶ πυρῳθεὶς τοῖς θυμοῖς, παραχρῆμα τὴν τοῦ Ἀν- ³⁸ δρονίκου πορφύραν περιελόμενος, καὶ τοὺς χιτῶνας περιβρῆξας, περιαγαγὼν καθ' ὅλην τὴν πόλιν, ἐπ' αὐτὸν τὸν τόπον οὐπὲρ εἰς τὸν Ὀνίαν ἡσέβησεν, ἐκεῖ τὸν μαιφόνον ἀπεκόσμησέ, τοῦ Κυρίου τὴν ἀξίαν αὐτῷ κόλασιν ἀποδόντος.

Γενομένων δὲ πολλῶν ἱεροσυλημάτων κατὰ τὴν πόλιν ὑπὸ ³⁹ τοῦ Λυσιμάχου μετὰ τῆς Μενελαίου γνώμης, καὶ διαδοθείσης ἔξω τῆς φήμης, ἐπισυνήχθη τὸ πλῆθος ἐπὶ τὸν Λυσίμαχον,

40 χρυσωμάτων ἤδη πολλῶν διενηνεγμένων. Ἐπεγειρομένων δὲ τῶν ὄχλων, καὶ ταῖς ὀργαῖς διεμπιπλαμένων, καθοπλίσας ὁ Λυσίμαχος πρὸς τρισχιλίους, κατήρξατο χειρῶν ἀδίκων, προηγησαμένου τινὸς Τυράννου προβεβηκότος τὴν ἡλικίαν, οὐδὲν δὲ ἦττον καὶ τὴν ἄνοιαν.

41 Συνιδόντες δὲ καὶ τὴν ἐπίθεσιν τοῦ Λυσιμάχου, συναρπάσαντες οἱ μὲν πέτρους, οἱ δὲ ξύλων πάχη, τινὲς δὲ ἐκ τῆς παρακειμένης σποδοῦ δρασσόμενοι, φύρδην ἐνετίνασσαν εἰς τοὺς περὶ τὸν Λυσίμαχον. Δι' ἣν αἰτίαν πολλοὺς μὲν αὐτῶν τραυματίας ἐποίησαν, τινὰς δὲ καὶ κατέβαλον, πάντας δὲ εἰς φυγὴν συνήλασαν, αὐτὸν δὲ τὸν ἱερόσυλον παρὰ τὸ γαζοφυλάκιον ἐχειρώσαντο.

43, 44 Περὶ δὲ τούτων ἐνέστη κρίσις πρὸς τὸν Μενέλαον. Καταντήσαντος δὲ τοῦ βασιλέως εἰς Τύρον, ἐπ' αὐτοῦ τὴν δικαιολογίαν ἐποίησαντο οἱ πεμφθέντες ἄνδρες τρεῖς ὑπὸ τῆς γερουσίας. Ἦδη δὲ λελειμμένος ὁ Μενέλαος ἐπηγγείλατο χρήματα ἱκανὰ τῷ Πτολεμαίῳ τῷ Δορυμένους πρὸς τὸ πείσαι τὸν βασιλέα.

46 Ὅθεν ἀπολαβὼν ὁ Πτολεμαῖος εἰς τι περίστυλον ὡς ἀναψύξοντα τὸν βασιλέα, μετέθηκε. Καὶ τὸν μὲν τῆς ὅλης κακίας αἰτίον Μενέλαον ἀπέλυσε τῶν κατηγορημάτων, τοῖς δὲ ταλαιπώροις, οἵτινες εἰ καὶ ἐπὶ Σκυθῶν ἔλεγον, ἀπελύθησαν ἂν ἀκατάγνωστοι, τούτοις θάνατον ἐπέκρινε.

48 Ταχέως οὖν τὴν ἀδικὸν ζημίαν ὑπέσχον οἱ ὑπὲρ πόλεως καὶ δῆμων καὶ τῶν ἱερῶν σκευῶν προαγορεύσαντες. Δι' ἣν αἰτίαν καὶ Τύριοι μισοπονηρήσαντες τὰ πρὸς τὴν κηδεῖαν αὐτῶν μεγαλοπρεπῶς ἐχορήγησαν. Ὁ δὲ Μενέλαος διὰ τὰς τῶν κρατούντων πλεονεξίας, ἔμενεν ἐπὶ τῆς ἀρχῆς, ἐπιφνόμενος τῇ κακίᾳ, μέγας τῶν πολιτῶν ἐπίβουλος καθεστώς.

5 Περὶ δὲ τὸν καιρὸν τοῦτον τὴν δευτέραν ἔφοδον ὁ Ἀντίοχος εἰς Αἴγυπτον ἐστείλατο. Συνέβη δὲ καθ' ὅλην τὴν πόλιν σχεδὸν ἐφ' ἡμέρας τεσσαράκοντα φαίνεσθαι διὰ τοῦ αἵερος τρέχοντας ἵππεῖς διαχρύσους στολὰς ἔχοντας, καὶ λόγχας σπειρηδὸν ἐξωπλισμένους, καὶ ἵλας ἵππων διατεταγμένας, καὶ προσβολὰς γινομένας, καὶ καταδρομὰς ἐκατέρων, καὶ ἀσπίδων κινήσεις, καὶ καμάκων πλήθη, καὶ μαχαίρων σπασμοὺς, καὶ βελῶν βολὰς, καὶ χρυσῶν κόσμων ἐκλάμψεις, καὶ παντοίους θωρακισμοὺς. Διὸ πάντες ἠξίουσαν ἐπ' ἀγαθῷ τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν γενέσθαι.

5 Γενομένης δὲ λαλιᾶς ψευδοῦς, ὡς μετηλλαχότος τὸν βίον Ἀντιόχου, παραλαβὼν ὁ Ἰάσων οὐκ ἐλάττους τῶν χιλίων, αἰφνιδίως ἐπὶ τὴν πόλιν συνετελέσατο ἐπίθεσιν· τῶν δὲ ἐπὶ τῷ τείχει συνελασθέντων, καὶ τέλος ἤδη καταλαμβανομένης τῆς πόλεως, ὁ Μενέλαος εἰς τὴν ἀκρόπολιν ἐφυγάδεν. Ὁ δὲ Ἰάσων ἐποιεῖτο σφαγὰς τῶν πολιτῶν τῶν ἰδίων ἀφειδῶς, οὐ συννοῶν τὴν εἰς τοὺς συγγενεῖς εὐημερίαν, δυσημερίαν εἶναι τὴν μεγίστην· δοκῶν δὲ πολεμίων καὶ οὐχ ὁμοεθνῶν τρόπαια καταβάλλεσθαι, τῆς μὲν ἀρχῆς οὐκ ἐκράτησε, τὸ δὲ τέλος τῆς ἐπιβουλῆς αἰσχύνῃ λαβὼν, φυγὰς πάλιν εἰς τὴν Ἀμμανίτιν ἀπήλθε.

machus, many vessels of gold being already carried away. ⁴⁰ Whereupon the common people rising, and being filled with rage, Lysimachus armed about three thousand men, and began first to offer violence; one Auranus being the leader, a man far gone in years, and no less in folly.

⁴¹ They then seeing the attempt of Lysimachus, some of them caught stones, some clubs, others taking handfuls of dust, that was next at hand, cast them all together upon Lysimachus, and those that set upon them. ⁴² Thus many of them they wounded, and some they struck to the ground, and all of them they forced to flee: but as for the churchrobber himself, him they killed beside the treasury.

⁴³ Of these matters therefore there was an accusation laid against Menelaus. ⁴⁴ Now when the king came to Tyrus, three men that were sent from the senate pleaded the cause before him: ⁴⁵ but Menelaus, being now convicted, promised Ptolemee the son of Dorymenes to give him much money, if he would pacify the king toward him.

⁴⁶ Whereupon Ptolemee taking the king aside into a certain gallery, as it were to take the air, brought him to be of another mind: ⁴⁷ inasmuch that he discharged Menelaus from the accusations, who notwithstanding was cause of all the mischief: and those poor men, who, if they had told their cause, yea, before the Scythians, should have been judged innocent, them he condemned to death.

⁴⁸ Thus they that followed the matter for the city, and for the people, and for the holy vessels, did soon suffer unjust punishment. ⁴⁹ Wherefore even they of Tyrus, moved with hatred of that wicked deed, caused them to be honourably buried. ⁵⁰ And so through the covetousness of them that were of power Menelaus remained still in authority, increasing in malice, and being a great traitor to the citizens.

About the same time Antiochus prepared his second voyage into Egypt: ² and then it happened, that through all the city, for the space almost of forty days, there were seen horsemen running in the air, in cloth of gold, and armed with lances, like a band of soldiers, ³ and troops of horsemen in array, encountering and running one against another, with shaking of shields, and multitude of pikes, and drawing of swords, and casting of darts, and glittering of golden ornaments, and harness of all sorts. ⁴ Wherefore every man prayed that that apparition might turn to good.

⁵ Now when there was gone forth a false rumour, as though Antiochus had been dead, Jason took at the least a thousand men, and suddenly made an assault upon the city; and they that were upon the walls being put back, and the city at length taken, Menelaus fled into the castle: ⁶ but Jason slew his own citizens without mercy, not considering that to get the day of them of his own nation would be a most unhappy day for him; but thinking they had been his enemies, and not his countrymen, whom he conquered. ⁷ Howbeit for all this he obtained not the principality, but at the last received shame for the reward of his treason, and fled again into the country of the Ammonites.

⁸In the end therefore he had an unhappy return, being accused before Aretas the king of the Arabians, fleeing from city to city, pursued of all men, hated as a forsaker of the laws, and being had in abomination as an open enemy of his country and countrymen, he was cast out into Egypt. ⁹Thus he that had driven many out of their country perished in a strange land, retiring to the Lacedemonians, and thinking *there* to find succour by reason of his kindred; ¹⁰and he that had cast out many unburied had none to mourn for him, nor any solemn funerals at all, nor sepulchre with his fathers.

¹¹Now when this that was done came to the king's ear, he thought that Judea had revolted: whereupon removing out of Egypt in a furious mind, he took the city by force of arms, ¹²and commanded his men of war not to spare such as they met, and to slay such as went up upon the houses. ¹³Thus there was killing of young and old, making away of men, women, and children, slaying of virgins and infants. ¹⁴And there were destroyed within the space of three whole days fourscore thousand, whereof forty thousand were slain in the conflict; and no fewer sold than slain.

¹⁵Yet was he not content with this, but presumed to go into the most holy temple of all the world; Menelaus, that traitor to the laws, and to his own country, being his guide: ¹⁶and taking the holy vessels with polluted hands, and with profane hands pulling down the things that were dedicated by other kings to the augmentation and glory and honour of the place, he gave them away.

¹⁷And so haughty was Antiochus in mind, that he considered not that the Lord was angry for a while for the sins of them that dwelt in the city, and therefore his eye was not upon the place. ¹⁸For had they not been formerly wrapped in many sins, this man, as soon as he had come, had forthwith been scourged, and put back from his presumption, as Heliodorus was, whom Seleucus the king sent to view the treasury.

¹⁹Nevertheless God did not choose the people for the place's sake, but the place for the people's sake. ²⁰And therefore the place itself, that was partaker with them of the adversity that happened to the nation, did afterward communicate in the benefits sent from the Lord: and as it was forsaken in the wrath of the Almighty, so again, the great Lord being reconciled, it was set up with all glory.

²¹So when Antiochus had carried out of the temple a thousand and eight hundred talents, he departed in all haste unto Antiochia, weening in his pride to make the land navigable, and the sea passable by foot: such was the haughtiness of his mind.

²²And he left governors to vex the nation: at Jerusalem, Philip, for his country a Phrygian, and for manners more barbarous than he that set him there; ²³and at Garizim, Andronicus; and besides, Menelaus, who worse than all the rest bare an heavy hand over the citizens, having a malicious mind against his countrymen the Jews.

²⁴He sent also that detestable ringleader Apollonius with an army of two and twenty thousand, commanding him to slay all those that were in their best age, and to sell the

Πέρας οὖν κακῆς ἀναστροφῆς ἔτυχεν ἐγκλεισθεὶς πρὸς 8
'Αρέταν τὸν τῶν Ἀράβων τύραννον, πόλιν ἐκ πόλεως φεύγων,
διωκόμενος ὑπὸ πάντων, καὶ στυγούμενος ὡς τῶν νόμων ἀπο-
στάτης, καὶ βδελυσσόμενος ὡς πατρίδος καὶ πολιτῶν δῆμιος,
εἰς Αἴγυπτον συνεβράσθη. Καὶ ὁ συχνὸς τῆς πατρίδος ἀπο- 9
ξενώσας, ἐπὶ ξένης ἀπώλετο πρὸς Λακεδαιμονίους ἀναχθεὶς, ὡς
διὰ τὴν συγγένειαν τευξόμενος σκέπης. Καὶ ὁ πλῆθος ἀτάφων 10
ἐκρίψας ἀπένθητος ἐγενήθη, καὶ κηδείας οὐδ' ἥστινοσούν οὔτε
πατρῶν τάφου μετέσχε.

Προσπεσόντων δὲ τῷ βασιλεῖ περὶ τῶν γεγονότων, διέλαβεν 11
ἀποστατεῖν τὴν Ἰουδαίαν· ὅθεν ἀναζεύξας ἐξ Αἰγύπτου τεθη-
ριωμένος τῇ ψυχῇ, ἔλαβε τὴν μὲν πόλιν δορυάλωτον. Καὶ 12
ἐκέλευσε τοῖς στρατιώταις κόπτειν ἀφειδῶς τοὺς ἐμπίπτοντας,
καὶ τοὺς εἰς τὰς οἰκίας ἀναβαίνοντας κατασφάζειν. Ἐγίνοντο 13
δὲ νέων καὶ πρεσβυτέρων ἀναιρέσεις, ἀνδρῶν τε καὶ γυναικῶν
καὶ τέκνων ἀφανισμὸς, παρθένων τε καὶ νηπίων σφαγαί. Ὀκτῶ 14
δὲ μυριάδες ἐν ταῖς πάσαις ἡμέραις τρισὶ κατεφθάρησαν, τέσ-
σαρες μὲν ἐν χειρῶν νομαῖς, οὐκ ἦττον δὲ τῶν ἐσφαγμένων
ἐπράθησαν.

Καὶ οὐκ ἄρκεσθεις δὲ τούτοις, κατετόλμησεν εἰς τὸ πάσης 15
τῆς γῆς ἀγιώτατον ἱερὸν εἰσελθεῖν, ὁδηγὸν ἔχων τὸν Μενέλαον,
τὸν καὶ τῶν νόμων καὶ τῆς πατρίδος προδότην γεγονότα. Καὶ 16
ταῖς μιαραῖς χερσὶ τὰ ἱερά σκεύη λαμβάνων, καὶ τὰ ὑπ' ἄλλων
βασιλέων ἀνατεθέντα πρὸς αὔξησιν καὶ δόξαν τοῦ τόπου καὶ
τιμὴν, ταῖς βεβήλοις χερσὶ συσσύρων ἐπεδίδου.

Καὶ ἐμετεωρίζετο τὴν διάνοιαν ὁ Ἀντίοχος, οὐ συννορῶν ὅτι 17
διὰ τὰς ἁμαρτίας τῶν τὴν πόλιν οἰκούντων ἀπώργισται βραχέως
ὁ Δεσπότης, διὸ γέγονε περὶ τὸν τόπον παρόρασις. Εἰ δὲ μὴ 18
συνέβαινε προενέχεσθαι πολλοῖς ἁμαρτήμασι, καθάπερ ὁ Ἡλιό-
δωρος ὁ πεμφθεὶς ὑπὸ Σελεύκου τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπὶ τὴν ἐπίσκεψιν
τοῦ γαζοφυλακίου, οὗτος προαχθεὶς παραχρῆμα μαστιγωθεὶς
ἀνεδράπη τοῦ θράσους.

Ἄλλ' οὐ διὰ τὸν τόπον τὸ ἔθνος, ἀλλὰ διὰ τὸ ἔθνος τὸν τόπον 19
ὁ Κύριος ἐξελέξατο. Διόπερ καὶ αὐτὸς ὁ τόπος συμμετασχὼν 20
τῶν τοῦ ἔθνους δυσπετημάτων γενομένων, ὕστερον εὐεργετημά-
των ὑπὸ τοῦ Κυρίου ἐκοινώνησε· καὶ ὁ καταλειφθεὶς ἐν τῇ τοῦ
παντοκράτορος ὀργῇ, πάλιν ἐν τῇ τοῦ μεγάλου Δεσπότητος καταλ-
λαγῇ μετὰ πάσης δόξης ἐπανωρθώθη.

Ὁ γοῦν Ἀντίοχος ὀκτακόσια πρὸς τοῖς χιλίοις ἀπενεγκάμενος 21
ἐκ τοῦ ἱεροῦ τάλαντα, θάπτον εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν ἐχωρίσθη, οἰόμενος
ἀπὸ τῆς ὑπερηφανίας τὴν μὲν γῆν πλωτὴν, καὶ τὸ πέλαγος
πορευτὸν θέσθαι διὰ τὸν μετεωρισμὸν τῆς καρδίας.

Κατέλιπε δὲ καὶ ἐπιστάτας τοῦ κακοῦν τὸ γένος, ἐν μὲν 22
Ἱεροσολύμοις Φίλιππον, τὸ μὲν γένος Φρύγα, τὸν δὲ τρόπον
βαρβαρώτερον ἔχοντα τοῦ καταστήσαντος· ἐν δὲ Γαριζὶν Ἀν- 23
δρόνικον, πρὸς δὲ τούτοις Μενέλαον, ὃς χεῖριστα τῶν ἄλλων
ὑπερήρετο τοῖς πολίταις, ἀπεχθὴ δὲ πρὸς τοὺς πολίτας Ἰου-
δαίους ἔχων διάθεσιν.

Ἐπεμψε δὲ τὸν μυσάρχην Ἀπολλώνιον μετὰ στρατεύματος 24
δισμυρίων πρὸς τοῖς δισχιλίοις, προσταξάς τοὺς ἐν ἡλικίᾳ πάν-

- 25 τὰς κατασφάξει, τὰς δὲ γυναῖκας καὶ νεωτέρους πωλεῖν. Οὗτος δὲ παραγενόμενος εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα, καὶ τὸν εἰρηνικὸν ὑποκριθεὶς, ἐπέσχεν ἕως τῆς ἁγίας ἡμέρας τοῦ σαββάτου· καὶ λαβὼν ἀργοῦντας τοὺς Ἰουδαίους, τοῖς ὑφ' αὐτὸν ἐξοπλησίαν παρήγειλε. Καὶ τοὺς ἐξεληθόντας πάντας ἐπὶ τὴν θεωρίαν συνεξεκέντησε, καὶ εἰς τὴν πόλιν σὺν τοῖς ὅπλοις εἰσδραμὼν ἱκανὰ κατέστρωσε πλήθη.
- 27 Ἰούδας δὲ ὁ Μακκαβαῖος δέκατός που γενηθεὶς, καὶ ἀναχωρήσας εἰς τὴν ἔρημον, θηρίων τρόπον ἐν τοῖς ὄρεσι διέζην σὺν τοῖς μετ' αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὴν χορτώδη τροφήν σιτούμενοι διατέλουν, πρὸς τὸ μὴ μετασχεῖν τοῦ μολυσμοῦ.
- 6 Μετ' οὐ πολὺν δὲ χρόνον ἐξαπέστειλεν ὁ βασιλεὺς γέροντα Ἀθηναῖον, ἀναγκάζειν τοὺς Ἰουδαίους μεταβαίνειν ἐκ τῶν πατρῴων νόμων, καὶ τοῖς τοῦ Θεοῦ νόμοις μὴ πολιτεύεσθαι, μολῦναι δὲ καὶ τὸν ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις νεῶν, καὶ προσονομάσαι Διὸς Ὀλυμπίου, καὶ τὸν ἐν Γαριζίν, καθὼς ἐτύγχανον οἱ τὸν τόπον οἰκοῦντες, Διὸς Ξενίου.
- 3 Χαλεπὴ δὲ καὶ τοῖς ὄχλοις ἦν καὶ δυσχερὴς ἡ ἐπίστασις τῆς 4 κακίας. Τὸ μὲν γὰρ ἱερὸν ἀσωτίας καὶ κώμων ἐπεπλήρωτο ὑπὸ τῶν ἐθνῶν ῥαθυμούντων μεθ' ἑταιρῶν, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ἱεροῖς περιβόλοις γυναῖξί πλησιαζόντων, ἔτι δὲ τὰ μὴ καθήκοντα ἔνδον 5 φερόντων. Τὸ δὲ θυσιαστήριον τοῖς ἀποδιεσταλμένοις ἀπὸ 6 τῶν νόμων ἀθεμίτοις ἐπεπλήρωτο. Ἦν δ' οὔτε σαββατίζειν, οὔτε πατρῴους ἑορτὰς διαφυλάττειν, οὔτε ἀπλῶς Ἰουδαῖον ὁμολογεῖν εἶναι.
- 7 Ἦγοντο δὲ μετὰ πικρᾶς ἀνάγκης εἰς τὴν κατὰ μῆνα τοῦ βασιλέως γενέθλιον ἡμέραν ἐπὶ σπλαγχνισμόν· γενομένης δὲ Διονυσίων ἑορτῆς, ἠναγκάζοντο οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι κισσοὺς ἔχοντες πομπεύειν τῷ Διονύσῳ.
- 8 Ψήφισμα δὲ ἐξέπεσεν εἰς τὰς ἀστυγείτονας πόλεις Ἑλληνίδας, Πτολεμαίων ὑποτιθεμένων τὴν αὐτὴν ἀγωγὴν κατὰ τῶν 9 Ἰουδαίων, ἅγειν καὶ σπλαγχνίζειν· τοὺς δὲ μὴ προαιρουμένους μεταβαίνειν ἐπὶ τὰ Ἑλληνικά, κατασφάζειν· παρὴν οὖν ὄραν τὴν ἐνεστῶσαν τάλαιπωρίαν.
- 10 Δύο γὰρ γυναῖκες ἀνηνέγθησαν περιτετμηκυῖαι τὰ τέκνα αὐτῶν· τούτων δὲ ἐκ τῶν μαστῶν κρεμάσαντες τὰ βρέφη, καὶ δημοσίᾳ περιαγαγόντες αὐτὰς τὴν πόλιν, κατὰ τοῦ τείχους 11 ἐκρήμνισαν. Ἅτεροι δὲ πλησίον συνδραμόντες εἰς τὰ σπήλαια, λεληθότως ἅγειν τὴν ἐβδομάδα, μηνυθέντες τῷ Φιλίππῳ συνεφλογίσθησαν, διὰ τὸ εὐλαβῶς ἔχειν βοηθῆσαι ἑαυτοῖς κατὰ τὴν δόξαν τῆς σεμνοτάτης ἡμέρας.
- 12 Παρακαλῶ οὖν τοὺς ἐντυγχάνοντας τῇδε τῇ βίβλῳ, μὴ συστέλλεσθαι διὰ τὰς συμφορὰς, λογίζεσθαι δὲ τὰς τιμωρίας μὴ πρὸς ὄλεθρον, ἀλλὰ πρὸς παιδείαν τοῦ γένους ἡμῶν εἶναι.
- 13 Καὶ τὸ μὴ πολὺν χρόνον ἑᾶσθαι τοὺς δυσσεβοῦντας, ἀλλ' εὐθέως περιπίπτειν ἐπιτιμίοις, μεγάλης εὐεργεσίας σημεῖόν ἐστιν.
- 14 Οὐ γὰρ, καθάπερ καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἐθνῶν ἀναμένει μακροθυμῶν ὁ Δεσπότης, μέχρι τοῦ καταντήσαντας αὐτοὺς πρὸς ἐκπλήρωσιν ἁμαρτιῶν, κολάσαι, οὕτω καὶ ἐφ' ἡμῶν ἔκρινεν 15 εἶναι, ἵνα μὴ πρὸς τέλος ἀφικομένων ἡμῶν τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν, 16 ὕστερον ἡμᾶς ἐκδικᾷ. Διόπερ οὐδέ ποτε μὲν τὸν ἔλεον αὐτοῦ ἀφ' ἡμῶν ἀφίστησιν· παιδεύων δὲ μετὰ συμφορὰς, οὐκ ἐγκατα-

women and the younger sort: ²⁵ who coming to Jerusalem, and pretending peace, did forbear till the holy day of the sabbath, when taking the Jews keeping holy day, he commanded his men to arm themselves. ²⁶ And so he slew all them that were gone to the celebrating of the sabbath, and running through the city with weapons slew great multitudes.

²⁷ But Judas Maccabeus with nine others, or thereabout, withdrew himself into the wilderness, and lived in the mountains after the manner of beasts, with his company, who fed on herbs continually, lest they should be partakers of the pollution.

Not long after this the king sent an old man of Athens to compel the Jews to depart from the laws of their fathers, and not to live after the laws of God: ² and to pollute also the temple in Jerusalem, and to call it the temple of Jupiter Olympius; and that in Garizim, of Jupiter the defender of strangers, as they did desire that dwelt in the place.

³ The coming in of this mischief was sore and grievous to the people: ⁴ for the temple was filled with riot and revelling by the Gentiles, who dallied with harlots, and had to do with women within the circuit of the holy places, and besides that brought in things that were not lawful. ⁵ The altar also was filled with profane things, which the law forbiddeth. ⁶ Neither was it lawful for a man to keep sabbath days or ancient feasts, or to profess himself at all to be a Jew.

⁷ And in the day of the king's birth every month they were brought by bitter constraint to eat of the sacrifices; and when the feast of Bacchus was kept, the Jews were compelled to go in procession to Bacchus, carrying ivy.

⁸ Moreover there went out a decree to the neighbour cities of the heathen, by the suggestion of Ptolemee, against the Jews, that they should observe the same fashions, and be partakers of their sacrifices: ⁹ and whoso would not conform themselves to the manners of the Gentiles should be put to death. Then might a man have seen the present misery.

¹⁰ For there were two women brought, who had circumcised their children; whom when they had openly led round about the city, the babes hanging at their breasts, they cast them down headlong from the wall. ¹¹ And others, that had run together into caves near by, to keep the sabbath day secretly, being discovered to Philip, were all burnt together, because they made a conscience to help themselves for the honour of the most sacred day.

¹² Now I beseech those that read this book, that they be not discouraged for these calamities, but that they judge those punishments not to be for destruction, but for a chastening of our nation. ¹³ For it is a token of his great goodness, when wicked doers are not suffered any longer time, but forthwith punished.

¹⁴ For not as with other nations, whom the Lord patiently forbeareth to punish, till they be come to the fulness of their sins, so deal-eth he with us, ¹⁵ lest that, being come to the height of sin, afterwards he should take vengeance of us. ¹⁶ And therefore he never withdraweth his mercy from us: and though he punish with adversity, yet doth he never for-

sake his people. ¹⁷ But let this that we have spoken be for a warning unto us. And now will we come to the declaring of the matter in a few words.

¹⁸ Eleazar, one of the principal scribes, an aged man, and of a well-favoured countenance, was constrained to open his mouth, and to eat swine's flesh. ¹⁹ But he, choosing rather to die gloriously, than to live stained with such an abomination, spit it forth, and came of his own accord to the torment. ²⁰ As it behoved them to come, that are resolute to stand out against such things as are not lawful for love or life to be tasted.

²¹ But they that had the charge of that wicked feast, for the old acquaintance they had with the man, taking him aside, besought him to bring flesh of his own provision, such as was lawful for him to use, and make as if he did eat of the flesh taken from the sacrifice commanded by the king; ²² that in so doing he might be delivered from death, and for the old friendship with them find favour.

²³ But he began to consider discreetly, and as became his age, and the excellency of his ancient years, and the honour of his gray head, whereunto he was come, and his most honest education from a child, or rather the holy law made and given by God: therefore he answered accordingly, and willed them straightways to send him to the grave.

²⁴ For it becometh not our age, *said he*, in any wise to dissemble, whereby many young persons might think that Eleazar, being fourscore years old and ten, were now gone to a strange religion; ²⁵ and so they through mine hypocrisy, and desire to live a little time and a moment longer, should be deceived by me, and I get a stain to mine old age, and make it abominable. ²⁶ For though for the present time I should be delivered from the punishment of men: yet should I not escape the hand of the Almighty, neither alive, nor dead.

²⁷ Wherefore now, manfully changing this life, I will shew myself such an one as mine age requireth, ²⁸ and leave a notable example to such as be young to die willingly and courageously for the honourable and holy laws. And when he had said these words, immediately he went to the torment: ²⁹ they that led him changing the good will they bare him a little before into hatred, because the foresaid speeches proceeded, as they thought, from a desperate mind.

³⁰ But when he was ready to die with stripes, he groaned, and said, It is manifest unto the Lord, that hath the holy knowledge, that whereas I might have been delivered from death, I *now* endure sore pains in body by being beaten: but in soul am well content to suffer these things, because I fear him. ³¹ And thus this man died, leaving his death for an example of a noble courage, and a memorial of virtue, not only unto young men, but unto all his nation.

It came to pass also, that seven brethren with their mother were taken, and compelled by the king against the law to taste swine's flesh, and were tormented with scourges and whips.

² But one of them that spake first said thus, What wouldest thou ask or learn of us? we are ready to die, rather than to transgress the laws of our fathers.

λείπει τὸν ἑαυτοῦ λαόν. Πλὴν ἕως ὑπομονήσεως ταῦθ' ἡμῖν ¹⁷ εἰρήσθω δι' ὀλίγων δ' ἐλευστέον ἐπὶ τὴν διήγησιν.

Ἐλεάζαρος τις τῶν πρωτευόντων γραμματέων, ἀνὴρ ἤδη ¹⁸ προβεβηκὼς τὴν ἡλικίαν, καὶ τὴν πρόσοψιν τοῦ προσώπου κάλλιστος τυγχάνων, ἀναχανὼν ἠναγκάζετο φαγεῖν ὑεῖον κρέας. Ὁ δὲ τὸν μετ' εὐκλείας θάνατον μᾶλλον ἢ τὸν μετὰ μύσους ¹⁹ βίον ἀναδεξάμενος, αὐθαιρέτως ἐπὶ τὸ τύμπανον προσήγε· προπτύσας δὲ, καθ' ὃν ἔδει τρόπον προσέρχεσθαι τοὺς ὑπομένοντας ²⁰ ἀμύνεσθαι, ὧν οὐ θέμις γεύσασθαι διὰ τὴν πρὸς τὸ ζῆν φιλοστοργίαν.

Οἱ δὲ πρὸς τῷ παρανόμῳ σπλαγχνισμῷ τεταγμένοι, διὰ τὴν ²¹ ἐκ τῶν παλαιῶν χρόνων πρὸς τὸν ἄνδρα γνῶσιν, ἀπολαβόντες αὐτὸν κατιδίαν παρεκάλουν, ἐνέγκαντα κρέα οἷς καθήκον αὐτῷ χρήσασθαι δι' αὐτοῦ παρασκευασθέντα, ὑποκριθῆναι δὲ ὡς ἐσθίοντα τὰ ὑπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως προστεταγμένα τῶν ἀπὸ τῆς θυσίας κρεῶν, ἵνα τοῦτο πράξας ἀπολυθῇ τοῦ θανάτου, καὶ ²² διὰ τὴν ἀρχαίαν πρὸς αὐτοὺς φιλίαν τύχη φιλανθρωπίας.

Ὁ δὲ λογισμὸν ἀστείον ἀναλαβὼν καὶ ἄξιον τῆς ἡλικίας, ²³ καὶ τῆς τοῦ γήρως ὑπεροχῆς, καὶ τῆς ἐπικτήτου καὶ ἐπιφανοῦς πολιᾶς, καὶ τῆς ἐκ παιδὸς καλλίστης ἀνατροφῆς, μᾶλλον δὲ τῆς ἀγίας καὶ θεοκτίστου νομοθεσίας, ἀκολούθως ἀπεφῆνατο, ταχέως λέγων προπέμπειν εἰς τὸν ᾄδην.

Οὐ γὰρ τῆς ἡμετέρας ἡλικίας ἄξιόν ἐστιν ὑποκριθῆναι, ἵνα ²⁴ πολλοὶ τῶν νέων ὑπολαβόντες Ἐλεάζαρον τὸν ἐννενηκονταετῆ μεταβεβηκέναι εἰς ἄλλοφυλισμὸν, καὶ αὐτοὶ διὰ τὴν ἐμὴν ²⁵ ὑπόκρισιν, καὶ διὰ τὸ μικρὸν καὶ ἀκαριαῖον ζῆν πλανηθῶσι δι' ἐμέ, καὶ μῦσος καὶ κηλίδα τοῦ γήρως κατακτήσομαι. Εἰ γὰρ ²⁶ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ παρόντος ἐξελοῦμαι τὴν ἐξ ἀνθρώπων τιμωρίαν, ἀλλὰ τὰς τοῦ παντοκράτορος χεῖρας οὔτε ζῶν οὔτε ἀποθανὼν ἐκφεύξομαι.

Διόπερ ἀνδρείως μὲν νῦν διαλλάξας τὸν βίον, τοῦ μὲν γήρως ²⁷ ἄξιος φανήσομαι, τοῖς δὲ νέοις ὑπόδειγμα γενναῖον καταλει- ²⁸ λοιπῶς, εἰς τὸ προθύμως καὶ γενναίως ὑπὲρ τῶν σεμνῶν καὶ ἁγίων νόμων ἀπευθανατίζειν· τοσαῦτα δὲ εἰπὼν, ἐπὶ τὸ τύμπανον εὐθέως ἦλθε. Τῶν δὲ ἀγόντων τὴν μικρῷ πρότερον ²⁹ εὐμένειαν πρὸς αὐτὸν εἰς δυσμένειαν μεταβαλόντων διὰ τὸ τοὺς προειρημένους λόγους, ὡς αὐτοὶ διελάμβανον, ἀπόνοιαν εἶναι.

Μέλλων δὲ ταῖς πληγαῖς τελευτᾶν, ἀναστενάξας εἶπε, τῷ ³⁰ Κυρίῳ τῷ τὴν ἁγίαν γνῶσιν ἔχοντι φανερόν ἐστιν, ὅτι δυνάμενος ἀπολυθῆναι τοῦ θανάτου, σκληρὰς ὑποφέρω κατὰ τὸ σῶμα ἀλγηδόνας μαστιγούμενος, κατὰ ψυχὴν δὲ ἡδέως διὰ τὸν αὐτοῦ φόβον ταῦτα πάσχω. Καὶ οὗτος οὖν τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον ³¹ μετήλλαξεν, οὐ μόνον τοῖς νέοις, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῖς πλείστοις τοῦ ἔθνους τὸν ἑαυτοῦ θάνατον ὑπόδειγμα γενναιότητος καὶ μνημόσυνον ἀρετῆς καταλιπὼν.

Συνέβη δὲ καὶ ἑπτὰ ἀδελφοὺς μετὰ τῆς μητρὸς συλληφθέντας ⁷ ἀναγκάζεσθαι ὑπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως ἀπὸ τῶν ἀθεμίτων ὑεῖων κρεῶν ἐφάπτεσθαι, μᾶστιξι καὶ νευραῖς αἰκιζομένους.

Εἰς δὲ αὐτῶν γενόμενος προήγορος, οὕτως ἔφη, τί μέλλεις ² ἐρωτᾶν, καὶ μανθάνειν παρ' ἡμῶν; ἔτοιμοι γὰρ ἀποθνήσκειν ἐσμὲν ἢ παραβαίνειν τοὺς πατρίους νόμους.

- 3 Ἐκθυμος δὲ γενόμενος ὁ βασιλεὺς, προσέταξε τήγανα, καὶ
4 λέβητας ἐκπυροῦν. Τῶν δὲ ἐκπυρωθέντων, παραχρήμα τὸν
γενόμενον αὐτῶν προήγορον προσέταξε γλωσσοτομεῖν, καὶ
περισκυθίσαντας ἀκρωτηριάζειν, τῶν λοιπῶν ἀδελφῶν, καὶ τῆς
μετρὸς, συνωρόντων.
- 5 Ἀχρηστον δὲ αὐτὸν τοῖς ὅλοις γενόμενον, ἐκέλευσε τῇ πυρᾷ
προσάγειν ἔμπνουν, καὶ τηγανίζειν· τῆς δὲ ἀτμίδος ἐφ' ἱκανὸν
διαδιδούσης τοῦ τηγάνου, ἀλλήλους παρεκάλουν σὺν τῇ μητρὶ
6 γενναίως τελευτᾶν, λέγοντες οὕτως. Ὁ Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς ἐφορᾷ,
καὶ ταῖς ἀληθείαις ἐφ' ἡμῖν παρακαλεῖται, καθάπερ διὰ τῆς
κατὰ πρόσωπον ἀντιμαρτυροῦσης ὥδῃς διεσάφησε Μωυσῆς,
λέγων, καὶ ἐπὶ τοῖς δούλοις αὐτοῦ παρακληθήσεται.
- 7 Μεταλλάξαντος δὲ τοῦ πρώτου τὸν τρόπον τοῦτον, τὸν δεύτε-
ρον ἦγον ἐπὶ τὸν ἐμπαιγμόν· καὶ τὸ τῆς κεφαλῆς δέρμα σὺν
ταῖς θριξὶ περισύραντες, ἐπηρώτων, εἰ φάγεσαι πρὸ τοῦ τιμωρη-
θῆναι τὸ σῶμα κατὰ μέλος;
- 8 Ὁ δὲ ἀποκριθεὶς τῇ πατρίῳ φωνῇ εἶπεν, οὐχί· διόπερ καὶ
9 οὗτος τὴν ἐξῆς ἔλαβε βάσανον, ὡς ὁ πρῶτος. Ἐν ἐσχάτῃ δὲ
πνοῇ γενόμενος, εἶπε, σὺ μὲν ἀλάστωρ ἐκ τοῦ παρόντος ἡμᾶς
ζῆν ἀπολύεις, ὁ δὲ τοῦ κόσμου βασιλεὺς ἀποθανόντας ἡμᾶς
ὑπὲρ τῶν αὐτοῦ νόμων εἰς αἰώνιον ἀναβίωσιν ζωῆς ἡμᾶς ἀνα-
στήσει.
- 10 Μετὰ δὲ τοῦτον ὁ τρίτος ἐνεπαίζετο, καὶ τὴν γλῶσσαν αἰτη-
11 θείς ταχέως προέβαλε, καὶ τὰς χεῖρας εὐθαρσῶς προέτεινε, καὶ
γενναίως εἶπεν, ἐξ οὐρανοῦ ταῦτα κέκτημαι, καὶ διὰ τοὺς αὐτοῦ
νόμους ὑπερορῶ ταῦτα, καὶ παρ' αὐτοῦ ταῦτα πάλιν ἐλπίζω
12 κομίσασθαι. Ὡστε αὐτὸν τὸν βασιλέα καὶ τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ
ἐκπλήσσεσθαι τὴν τοῦ νεανίσκου ψυχὴν, ὡς ἐν οὐδενὶ τὰς ἀλγη-
δόνας ἐτίθετο.
- 13 Καὶ τούτου δὲ μεταλλάξαντος, τὸν τέταρτον ὡσαύτως ἐβασά-
14 νιζον αἰκιζόμενοι. Καὶ γεννόμενος πρὸς τὸ τελευτᾶν, οὕτως
ἔφη, αἰρετὸν μεταλλάσσοντας ὑπ' ἀνθρώπων τὰς ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ
προσδοκᾶν ἐλπίδας, πάλιν ἀναστήσεσθαι ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· σοὶ μὲν
γὰρ ἀνάστασις εἰς ζωὴν οὐκ ἔσται.
- 15, 16 Ἐχομένως δὲ τὸν πέμπτον προσάγοντες ἠκίζοντο. Ὁ δὲ
πρὸς αὐτὸν ἰδὼν, εἶπεν, ἐξουσίαν ἐν ἀνθρώποις ἔχων φθαρτὸς
ὢν, ὃ θελεῖς ποιεῖς· μὴ δόκει δὲ τὸ γένος ἡμῶν ὑπὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ
17 καταλελείφθαι. Σὺ δὲ καρτέρει, καὶ θεώρει τὸ μεγαλεῖον
αὐτοῦ κράτος, ὡς σὲ καὶ τὸ σπέρμα σου βασανίσει.
- 18 Μετὰ δὲ τοῦτον ἦγον τὸν ἕκτον, καὶ μέλλων ἀποθνήσκειν,
ἔφη, μὴ πλανῶ μάτην, ἡμεῖς γὰρ δι' ἑαυτοὺς ταῦτα πάσχομεν
ἀμαρτάνοντες εἰς τὸν ἑαυτῶν Θεόν, διὸ ἄξια θαυμασμοῦ γέγονε.
19 Σὺ δὲ μὴ νομίσης ἀθῶως ἔσεσθαι, θεομαχεῖν ἐπιχειρήσας.
- 20 Ὑπεραγόντως δὲ ἡ μήτηρ θαυμαστὴ καὶ μνήμης ἀγαθῆς
ἄξια, ἥτις ἀπολλυμένους υἱοὺς ἐπὶ τὰ συνωρόσα μῖα ὑπὸ καιρὸν
21 ἡμέρας, εὐψύχως ἔφερε διὰ τὰς ἐπὶ Κύριον ἐλπίδας. Ἐκαστον
δὲ αὐτῶν παρεκάλει τῇ πατρίῳ φωνῇ, γενναίῳ πεπληρωμένῃ
φρονήματι, καὶ τὸν θῆλυν λογισμὸν ἄρσενι θυμῷ διεγείρασα,
22 λέγουσα πρὸς αὐτοὺς, οὐδ' οἶδ' ὅπως εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν ἐφάνητε

³ Then the king, being in a rage, com-
manded pans and caldrons to be made hot :
⁴ which forthwith being heated, he com-
manded to cut out the tongue of him that
spake first, and to cut off the utmost parts
of his body, the rest of his brethren and
his mother looking on.

⁵ Now when he was thus maimed in all
his members, he commanded him being yet
alive to be brought to the fire, and to be
fried in the pan : and as the vapour of the
pan was for a good space dispersed, they ex-
horted one another with the mother to die
manfully, saying thus, ⁶ The Lord God look-
eth upon us, and in truth hath comfort in
us, as Moses in his song, which witnessed to
their faces, declared, saying, And he shall be
comforted in his servants.

⁷ So when the first was dead after this man-
ner, they brought the second to make him a
mocking stock : and when they had pulled off
the skin of his head with the hair, they asked
him, Wilt thou eat, before thou be punished
throughout every member of thy body ?

⁸ But he answered in his own language,
and said, No. Wherefore he also received
the next torment in order, as the former
did. ⁹ And when he was at the last gasp, he
said, Thou like a fury takest us out of this
present life, but the King of the world shall
raise us up, who have died for his laws, unto
everlasting life.

¹⁰ After him was the third made a mocking
stock : and when he was required he put
out his tongue, and that right soon, holding
forth his hands manfully, ¹¹ and said cour-
ageously, These I had from heaven ; and
for his laws I despise them ; and from him
I hope to receive them again. ¹² Inasmuch
that the king, and they that were with him,
 marvelled at the young man's courage, for
that he nothing regarded the pains.

¹³ Now when this man was dead also, they
tormented and mangled the fourth in like
manner. ¹⁴ So when he was ready to die he
said thus, It is good, being put to death by
men, to look for hope from God to be raised
up again by him : as for thee, thou shalt
have no resurrection to life.

¹⁵ Afterward they brought the fifth also, and
mangled him. ¹⁶ Then looked he unto the
king, and said, Thou hast power over men,
thou art corruptible, thou doest what thou
wilt ; yet think not that our nation is for-
saken of God ; ¹⁷ but abide a while, and
behold his great power, how he will torment
thee and thy seed.

¹⁸ After him also they brought the sixth,
who being ready to die said, Be not deceiv-
ed without cause : for we suffer these
things for ourselves, having sinned against
our God : therefore marvellous things are
done unto us. ¹⁹ But think not thou, that
takest in hand to strive against God, that
thou shalt escape unpunished.

²⁰ But the mother was marvellous above
all, and worthy of honourable memory : for
when she saw her seven sons slain within
the space of one day, she bare it with a good
courage, because of the hope she had in the
Lord. ²¹ Yea, she exhorted every one of
them in her own language, filled with cour-
ageous spirits ; and stirring up her woman-
ish thoughts with a manly stomach, she
said unto them, ²² I cannot tell how ye

came into my womb; for I neither gave you breath nor life, neither was it I that formed the members of every one of you; ²³ but doubtless the Creator of the world, who formed the generation of man, and found out the beginning of all things, will also of his own mercy give you breath and life again, as ye now regard not your own selves for his laws' sake.

²⁴ Now Antiochus, thinking himself despised, and suspecting it to be a reproachful speech, whilst the youngest was yet alive, did not only exhort him by words, but also assured him with oaths, that he would make him both a rich and a happy man, if he would turn from the laws of his fathers; and that also he would take him for his friend, and trust him with affairs.

²⁵ But when the young man would in no case hearken unto him, the king called his mother, and exhorted her that she would counsel the young man to save his life. ²⁶ And when he had exhorted her with many words, she promised him that she would counsel her son.

²⁷ But she bowing herself toward him, laughing the cruel tyrant to scorn, spake in her country language on this manner; O my son, have pity upon me that bare thee nine months in my womb, and gave thee suck three years, and nourished thee, and brought thee up unto this age, and endured the troubles of education. ²⁸ I beseech thee, my son, look upon the heaven and the earth, and all that is therein, and consider that God made them of things that were not; and so was mankind made likewise. ²⁹ Fear not this tormentor, but, being worthy of thy brethren, take thy death, that I may receive thee again in mercy with thy brethren.

³⁰ Whiles she was yet speaking these words, the young man said, Whom wait ye for? I will not obey the king's commandment: but I will obey the commandment of the law that was given unto our fathers by Moses. ³¹ And thou, that hast been the author of all mischief against the Hebrews, shalt not escape the hands of God.

³² For we suffer because of our sins. ³³ And though the living Lord be angry with us a little while for our chastening and correction, yet shall he be at one again with his servants. ³⁴ But thou, O godless man, and of all other most wicked, be not lifted up without a cause, nor puffed up with uncertain hopes, lifting up thy hand against the servants of God: ³⁵ for thou hast not yet escaped the judgment of Almighty God, who seeth all things.

³⁶ For our brethren, who now have suffered a short pain, are dead under God's covenant of everlasting life: but thou, through the judgment of God, shalt receive just punishment for thy pride. ³⁷ But I, as my brethren, offer up my body and life for the laws of our fathers, beseeching God that he would speedily be merciful unto our nation; and that thou by torments and plagues mayest confess, that he alone is God; ³⁸ and that in me and my brethren the wrath of the Almighty, which is justly brought upon all our nation, may cease.

³⁹ Then the king, being in a rage, handled him worse than all the rest, and took it grievously that he was mocked. ⁴⁰ So this

κοιλίαν, οὐδὲ ἐγὼ τὸ πνεῦμα καὶ τὴν ζωὴν ὑμῖν ἐχαρισάμην, καὶ τὴν ἐκάστου στοιχείωσιν οὐκ ἐγὼ διερύθμισα. Τοιγαροῦν ²³ ὁ τοῦ κόσμου κτίστης ὁ πλάσας ἀνθρώπου γένεσιν, καὶ πάντων ἐξευρὼν γένεσιν, καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα καὶ τὴν ζωὴν ὑμῖν πάλιν ἀποδώσει μετ' ἐλέους, ὡς νῦν ὑπεροράτε ἑαυτοὺς διὰ τοὺς αὐτοῦ νόμους.

Ὁ δὲ Ἀντίοχος οἰόμενος καταφρονεῖσθαι, καὶ τὴν ὀνειδίζου- ²⁴ σαν ὑφορώμενος φωνήν, ἔτι τοῦ νεωτέρου περιόντος, οὐ μόνον διὰ λόγων ἐποιεῖτο τὴν παράκλησιν, ἀλλὰ καὶ δι' ὀρκων ἐπίσταν, ἅμα πλουτιεῖν καὶ μακαριστὸν ποιήσιν μεταθέμενον ἀπὸ τῶν πατρίων νόμων, καὶ φίλον ἔξιν, καὶ χρείας ἐμπιστεύσειν.

Τοῦ δὲ νεανίου μηδαμῶς προσέχοντος, προσκαλεσάμενος ὁ ²⁵ βασιλεὺς τὴν μητέρα, παρῆναι τοῦ μειρακίου γενέσθαι σύμβουλον ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ. Πολλὰ δὲ αὐτοῦ παραινέσαντος, ἐπέδεδ- ²⁶ ξατο πείσειν τὸν υἱόν.

Προσκύψασα δὲ αὐτῷ, χλευάσασα τὸν ὦμον τύραννον, οὕτως ²⁷ ἔφησε τῇ πατρὶά φωνῇ, υἱέ, ἐλέησόν με τὴν ἐν γαστρὶ περιενέγκασάν σε μήνας ἑννέα, καὶ θηλάσασάν σε ἔτη τρία, καὶ ἐκθρέψασάν σε καὶ ἀγαγοῦσαν εἰς τὴν ἡλικίαν ταύτην, καὶ τροφοφορήσασαν. Ἀξιώ σε, τέκνον, ἀναβλέψαντα εἰς τὸν ²⁸ οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν, καὶ τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς πάντα ἰδόντα, γνῶναι ὅτι ἐξ οὐκ ὄντων ἐποίησεν αὐτὰ ὁ Θεὸς, καὶ τὸ τῶν ἀνθρώπων γένος οὕτως γεγένηται, μὴ φοβηθῆς τὸν δῆμιον τοῦτον, ἀλλὰ τῶν ²⁹ ἀδελφῶν ἄξιός γενόμενος, ἐπιδεῖξαι τὸν θάνατον, ἵνα ἐν τῷ ἐλέει σὺν τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς σου κομίσωμαί σε.

Ἐτι δὲ ταύτης καταλεγούσης ὁ νεανίας εἶπε, τίνα μένετε; ³⁰ οὐχ ὑπακούω τοῦ προστάγματος τοῦ βασιλέως· τοῦ δὲ προστάγματος ἀκούω τοῦ νόμου τοῦ δοθέντος τοῖς πατράσιν ἡμῶν διὰ Μωυσέως. Σὺ δὲ πάσης κακίας εὐρετῆς γενόμενος εἰς τοὺς ³¹ Ἑβραίους, οὐ μὴ διαφύγῃς τὰς χεῖρας τοῦ Θεοῦ.

Ἡμεῖς γὰρ διὰ τὰς ἑαυτῶν ἁμαρτίας πάσχομεν. Εἰ δὲ ^{32, 33} χάριν ἐπιπλήξεως καὶ παιδείας ὁ ζῶν Κύριος ἡμῶν βραχέως ἐπ' ὀργισται, καὶ πάλιν καταλλαγῆσεται τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ δούλοις. Σὺ δὲ ὦ ἀνόσιε, καὶ πάντων ἀνθρώπων μιαιώτατε, μὴ μάτην ³⁴ μετεωρίζου φρυαττόμενος ἀδύλοισι ἐλπίσιν, ἐπὶ τοὺς δούλους αὐτοῦ ἐπαιρόμενος χεῖρα. Οὕτω γὰρ τὴν τοῦ παντοκράτορος ³⁵ ἐπόπτου Θεοῦ κρίσιν ἐκπέφευγας.

Οἱ μὲν γὰρ νῦν ἡμέτεροι ἀδελφοὶ βραχὺν ὑπενέγκαντες ³⁶ πόνον, αἰενάου ζωῆς ὑπὸ διαθήκην Θεοῦ πεπτώκασι· σὺ δὲ τῇ τοῦ Θεοῦ κρίσει δίκαια τὰ πρόστιμα τῆς ὑπερηφανίας ἀποίσῃ. Ἐγὼ δὲ καθάπερ οἱ ἀδελφοί μου, καὶ σῶμα καὶ ψυχὴν προ- ³⁷ δίδωμι περὶ τῶν πατρίων νόμων, ἐπικαλούμενος τὸν Θεὸν ἵλεων ταχὺ τῷ ἔθνει γενέσθαι, καὶ σὲ μετὰ ἑτασμῶν καὶ μαστίγων ἐξομολογήσασθαι, διότι μόνος αὐτὸς Θεὸς ἐστίν, ἐν ἐμοὶ δὲ ³⁸ καὶ τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς μου στήναι τὴν τοῦ παντοκράτορος ὀργὴν τὴν ἐπὶ τὸ σύμπαν ἡμῶν γένος δικαίως ἐπηγμένην.

Ἐκθυμὸς δὲ γενόμενος ὁ βασιλεὺς, τούτῳ παρὰ τοὺς ἄλλους ³⁹ χειρίστως ἀπήντησε, πικρῶς φέρων ἐπὶ τῷ μυκτηρισμῷ. Καὶ ⁴⁰

οὗτος οὖν καθαρὸς τὸν βίον μετήλλαξε, παντελῶς ἐπὶ τῷ Κυρίῳ πεποιθώς.

- 41 Ἐσχάτη δὲ τῶν υἱῶν ἡ μήτηρ ἐτελεύτησε.
- 42 Τὰ μὲν οὖν περὶ σπλαγχνισμοὺς, καὶ τὰς ὑπερβαλλούσας αἰκίας ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον δεδηλώσθω.
- 8 Ἰούδας δὲ ὁ Μακκαβαῖος καὶ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ, παραιοπορευόμενοι λεληθότως εἰς τὰς κώμας, προσεκαλοῦντο τοὺς συγγενεῖς, καὶ τοὺς μεμενηκότας ἐν τῷ Ἰουδαϊσμῷ προσλαβόμενοι, συνηγαγον εἰς ἑξακισχιλίους.
- 2 Καὶ ἐπεκαλοῦντο τὸν Κύριον ἐπιδεῖν ἐπὶ τὸν ὑπὸ πάντων καταπατούμενον λαὸν, οἰκτεῖραι δὲ καὶ τὸν ναὸν, τὸν ὑπὸ τῶν ἀσεβῶν ἀνθρώπων βεβηλωθέντα, ἐλεῆσαι δὲ καὶ τὴν καταφθειρομένην πόλιν καὶ μέλλουσαν ἰσόπεδον γίνεσθαι, καὶ τῶν καταβοώντων πρὸς αὐτὸν αἱμάτων εἰσακοῦσαι, μνησθῆναι δὲ καὶ τῆς τῶν ἀναμαρτήτων νηπίων παρανόμου ἀπωλείας, καὶ περὶ τῶν γενομένων εἰς τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ βλασφημιῶν, καὶ μισοπονηρῆσαι.
- 5 Γενόμενος δὲ ἐν συστήματι ὁ Μακκαβαῖος, ἀνυπόστατος ἦδη τοῖς ἔθνεσιν ἐγένετο, τῆς ὀργῆς τοῦ Κυρίου εἰς ἔλεον τραπέισης. Πόλεις δὲ καὶ κώμας ἀπροσδοκῆτως ἐρχόμενος ἐνεπὶμπρα, καὶ τοὺς ἐπικαίρους τόπους ἀπολαμβάνων, οὐκ ὀλίγους τῶν πολεμίων ἐνίκα τροπούμενος. Μάλιστα τὰς νύκτας πρὸς τὰς τοιαύτας ἐπιβουλὰς συνεργοὺς ἐλάμβανε· καὶ λαλιά τις τῆς εὐανδρίας αὐτοῦ διεχεῖτο πανταχῇ.
- 8 Συνορῶν δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος κατὰ μικρὸν εἰς προκοπὴν ἐρχόμενον τὸν ἄνδρα πυκνότερον δὲ ἐν ταῖς εὐημερίαις προβαίνοντα, πρὸς Πτολεμαῖον τὸν κοίλης Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης στρατηγὸν ἔγραψεν ἐπιβοηθεῖν τοῖς τοῦ βασιλέως πράγμασιν.
- 9 Ὁ δὲ ταχέως προχειρισάμενος, Νικάνωρα τὸν τοῦ Πατρόκλου, τῶν πρώτων φίλων, ἀπέστειλεν, ὑποτάξας παμφύλων ἔθνη οὐκ ἐλάττους τῶν δισμυρίων, τὸ σύμπαν τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐξᾶραι γένος· συνέστησε δὲ αὐτῷ καὶ Γοργίαν ἄνδρα στρατηγὸν, καὶ ἐν πολεμικαῖς χρεαῖς πείραν ἔχοντα.
- 10 Διεστήσατο δὲ ὁ Νικάνωρ τὸν φόρον τῷ βασιλεῖ τοῖς Ῥωμαίοις ὄντα ταλάντων δισχιλίων ἐκ τῆς τῶν Ἰουδαίων αἰχμαλωσίας ἐκπληρώσειν. Εὐθέως δὲ εἰς τὰς παραθαλασσίους πόλεις ἀπέστειλε προσκαλούμενος ἐπ' ἀγορασμὸν Ἰουδαϊκῶν σωμάτων, ὑπισχνούμενον ἐννεήκοντα σώματα ταλάντου παραχωρήσειν· οὐ προσδεχόμενος τὴν παρὰ τοῦ παντοκράτορος μέλλουσαν παρακολουθήσειν ἐπ' αὐτῷ δίκην.
- 12 Τῷ δὲ Ἰούδα προσέειπε περὶ τῆς τοῦ Νικάνωρος ἐφόδου· καὶ μεταδόντος αὐτοῦ τοῖς σὺν αὐτῷ τὴν παρουσίαν τοῦ στρατοπέδου, οἱ δειλανδροῦντες καὶ ἀπιστοῦντες τὴν τοῦ Θεοῦ δίκην, διεδίδρασκον, καὶ ἐξετόπιζον ἑαυτοὺς.
- 14 Οἱ δὲ τὰ περιλειμμένα πάντα ἐπώλουν, ὁμοῦ δὲ τὸν Κύριον ἠξίουσαν ῥύσασθαι τοὺς ὑπὸ τοῦ δυσσεβοῦς Νικάνωρος πρὶν συντυχεῖν πεπραμένους. Καὶ εἰ μὴ δι' αὐτοὺς, ἀλλὰ διὰ τὰς πρὸς τοὺς πατέρας αὐτῶν διαθήκας, καὶ ἕνεκεν τῆς ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἐπικλήσεως τοῦ σεμνοῦ καὶ μεγαλοπρεποῦς ὀνόματος αὐτοῦ.
- 16 Συναγαγὼν δὲ ὁ Μακκαβαῖος τοὺς περὶ αὐτὸν ὄντας τὸν

man died undefiled, and put his whole trust in the Lord.

⁴¹ Last of all after the sons the mother died.

⁴² Let this be enough now to have spoken concerning the idolatrous feasts, and the extreme tortures.

Then Judas Maccabeus, and they that were with him, went privily into the towns, and called their kinsfolks together, and took unto them all such as continued in the Jews' religion, and assembled about six thousand men.

² And they called upon the Lord, that he would look upon the people that was trodden down of all; and also pity the temple profaned of ungodly men; ³ and that he would have compassion upon the city, sore defaced, and ready to be made even with the ground; and hear the blood that cried unto him, ⁴ and remember the wicked slaughter of harmless infants, and the blasphemies committed against his name; and that he would shew his hatred against the wicked.

⁵ Now when Maccabeus had his company about him, he could not be withstood by the heathen: for the wrath of the Lord was turned into mercy. ⁶ Therefore he came at unawares, and burnt up towns and cities, and got into his hands the most commodious places, and overcame and put to flight no small number of his enemies. ⁷ But specially took he advantage of the night for such privy attempts, insomuch that the bruit of his manliness was spread every where.

⁸ So when Philip saw that this man increased by little and little, and that things prospered with him still more and more, he wrote unto Ptolemeus, the governor of Celsyria and Phenice, to yield more aid to the king's affairs.

⁹ Then forthwith choosing Nicanor the son of Patroclus, one of his special friends, he sent him with no fewer than twenty thousand of all nations under him, to root out the whole generation of the Jews; and with him he joined also Gorgias a captain, who in matters of war had great experience.

¹⁰ So Nicanor undertook to make so much money of the captive Jews, as should defray the tribute of two thousand talents, which the king was to pay to the Romans. ¹¹ Wherefore immediately he sent to the cities upon the sea coast, proclaiming a sale of the captive Jews, and promising that they should have fourscore and ten bodies for one talent, not expecting the vengeance that was to follow upon him from the Almighty God.

¹² Now when word was brought unto Judas of Nicanor's coming, and he had imparted unto those that were with him that the army was at hand, ¹³ they that were fearful, and distrusted the justice of God, fled, and conveyed themselves away.

¹⁴ Others sold all that they had left, and withal besought the Lord to deliver them, being sold by the wicked Nicanor before they met together: ¹⁵ and if not for their own sakes, yet for the covenants he had made with their fathers, and for his holy and glorious name's sake, by which they were called.

¹⁶ So Maccabeus called his men together

unto the number of six thousand, and exhorted them not to be stricken with terror of the enemy, nor to fear the great multitude of the heathen, who came wrongfully against them; but to fight manfully,¹⁷ and to set before their eyes the injury that they had unjustly done to the holy place, and the cruel handling of the city whereof they made a mockery, and also the taking away of the government of their forefathers: ¹⁸For they, said he, trust in their weapons and boldness; but our confidence is in the Almighty God, who at a beck can cast down both them that come against us, and also all the world.

¹⁹Moreover he recounted unto them what helps their forefathers had found, and how they were delivered, when under Sennacherib an hundred fourscore and five thousand perished. ²⁰And he told them of the battle that they had in Babylon with the Galatians, how they came but eight thousand in all to the business, with four thousand Macedonians, and that the Macedonians being perplexed, the eight thousand destroyed an hundred and twenty thousand because of the help that they had from heaven, and so received a great booty.

²¹Thus when he had made them bold with these words, and ready to die for the laws and the country, he divided his army into four parts; ²²and joined with himself his own brethren, leaders of each band, *to wit*, Simon, and Joseph, and Jonathan, giving each one fifteen hundred men. ²³Also he appointed Eleazar to read the holy book: and when he had given them this watchword, The help of God: himself leading the first band, he joined battle with Nicanor.

²⁴And by the help of the Almighty they slew above nine thousand of their enemies, and wounded and maimed the most part of Nicanor's host, and so put all to flight; ²⁵and took their money that came to buy them, and pursued them far: but lacking time they returned: ²⁶for it was the day before the sabbath, and therefore they would no longer pursue them.

²⁷So when they had gathered their armour together, and spoiled their enemies, they occupied themselves about the sabbath, yielding exceeding praise and thanks to the Lord, who had preserved them unto that day, which was the beginning of mercy distilling upon them.

²⁸And after the sabbath, when they had given part of the spoils to the maimed, and the widows, and orphans, the residue they divided among themselves and their servants. ²⁹When this was done, and they had made a common supplication, they besought the merciful Lord to be reconciled with his servants for ever.

³⁰Moreover of those that were with Timotheus and Bacchides, who fought against them, they slew above twenty thousand, and very easily got high and strong holds, and divided among themselves many spoils more, and made the maimed, orphans, widows, yea, and the aged also, equal in spoils with themselves. ³¹And when they had gathered their armour together, they laid them up all carefully in convenient places, and the remnant of the spoils they brought to Jerusalem.

ἀριθμὸν ἑξακισχιλίων, παρεκάλει μὴ καταπλαγῆναι τοὺς πολεμίους, μηδὲ εὐλαβεῖσθαι τὴν τῶν ἀδίκως παραγινομένων ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἐθνῶν πολυπληθίαν, ἀγωνίσασθαι δὲ γενναίως, πρὸ ὀφθαλμῶν λαβόντας τὴν ἀνόμως εἰς τὸν ἅγιον τόπον ¹⁷ συντετελεσμένην ὑπ' αὐτῶν ὕβριν, καὶ τὸν τῆς ἐμπεπαιγμένης πόλεως αἰκισμὸν, ἔτι δὲ τὴν τῆς προγονικῆς πολιτείας κατάλυσιν. Οἱ μὲν γὰρ ὅπλοις πεποίθασιν ἅμα καὶ τόλμαις, ἔφησεν, ¹⁸ ἡμεῖς δὲ ἐπὶ τῷ παντοκράτορι Θεῷ δυναμένῳ καὶ τοὺς ἐρχομένους ἐφ' ἡμᾶς, καὶ τὸν ὅλον κόσμον ἐν ἐνὶ νεύματι καταβαλεῖν, πεποίθαμεν.

Προσαναλεξόμενος δὲ αὐτοῖς καὶ τὰς ἐπὶ τῶν προγόνων ¹⁹ γενομένας ἀντιλήψεις, καὶ τὴν ἐπὶ Σενναχηρείμ τῶν ἑκατὸν ὀγδοήκοντα πέντε χιλιάδων ὡς ἀπώλοντο. Καὶ τὴν ἐν τῇ ²⁰ Βαβυλωνίᾳ τὴν πρὸς αὐτοὺς Γαλάτας παράταξιν γενομένην, ὡς οἱ πάντες ἐπὶ τὴν χρείαν ἦλθον ὀκτακισχιλιοὶ σὺν Μακεδόσι τετρακισχιλίοις, τῶν Μακεδόνων ἀπορουμένων, οἱ ὀκτακισχιλιοὶ τὰς δώδεκα μυριάδας ἀπώλεσαν διὰ τὴν γενομένην αὐτοῖς ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ βοήθειαν, καὶ ὠφέλειαν πολλὴν ἔλαβον.

Ἐφ' οἷς εὐθαρσεῖς αὐτοὺς παραστήσας, καὶ ἐτοιμούς ὑπὲρ ²¹ τῶν νόμων καὶ τῆς πατρίδος ἀποθνήσκειν, τετραμερές τι τὸ στράτευμα ἐποίησε· τάσας καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ προη- ²² γουμένους ἑκατέρας τάξεως, Σίμωνα καὶ Ἰώσηφον καὶ Ἰωνάθαν, ὑποτάξας ἑκάστῳ χιλίους πρὸς τοῖς πεντακοσίοις, ἔτι δὲ καὶ ²³ Ἑλεάζαρον, παραγούνους τὴν ἱερὰν βίβλον, καὶ δούς σύνθημα Θεοῦ βοηθείας, τῆς πρώτης σπέρας αὐτὸς προηγούμενος, συνέβαλε τῷ Νικάνορι.

Γενομένου δὲ αὐτοῖς τοῦ παντοκράτορος συμμάχου, κατέσ- ²⁴ φαζαν τῶν πολεμίων ὑπὲρ τοὺς ἑννακισχιλίους, τραυματίας δὲ καὶ τοῖς μέλεσιν ἀναπήρους τὸ πλεῖστον μέρος τῆς τοῦ Νικάνορος στρατιᾶς ἐποίησαν, πάντας δὲ φυγεῖν ἠνάγκασαν. Τὰ ²⁵ δὲ χρήματα τῶν παραγεγονότων ἐπὶ τὸν ἀγορασμὸν αὐτῶν ἔλαβον· συνδιώξαντες δὲ αὐτοὺς ἐφ' ἱκανὸν, ἀνέλυσαν ὑπὸ τῆς ὥρας συγκλειόμενοι. Ἦν γὰρ ἡ πρὸ τοῦ σαββάτου, δι' ἣν ²⁶ αἰτίαν οὐκ ἐμακροθύμησαν κατατρέχοντες αὐτούς.

Ὅπλολογήσαντες δὲ αὐτοὺς, καὶ τὰ σκῦλα ἐκδύσαντες τῶν ²⁷ πολεμίων, περὶ τὸ σάββατον ἐγίνοντο, περισσῶς εὐλογοῦντες, καὶ ἐξομολογούμενοι τῷ Κυρίῳ τῷ διασώσαντι αὐτοὺς εἰς τὴν ἡμέραν ταύτην, ἀρχὴν ἐλέους τάξαντος αὐτοῖς.

Μετὰ δὲ τὸ σάββατον τοῖς ἡκισμένοις, καὶ ταῖς χήραις, ²⁸ καὶ ὀρφανοῖς, μερίσαντες ἀπὸ τῶν σκύλων, τὰ λοιπὰ αὐτοὶ καὶ τὰ παῖδιά ἐμερίσαντο. Ταῦτα δὲ διαπραξάμενοι, καὶ κοινὴν ²⁹ ἱκετείαν ποιησάμενοι, τὸν ἐλεήμονα Κύριον ἠξίουσαν εἰς τέλος, καταλλαγῆναι τοῖς αὐτοῦ δούλοις.

Καὶ τῶν περὶ Τιμόθεον καὶ Βακχίδην συνεριζόντων, ὑπὲρ ³⁰ τοὺς δισμυρίους αὐτῶν ἀνείλον, καὶ ὀχυρωμάτων ὑψηλῶν εὖ μάλα ἐγκρατεῖς ἐγένοντο· καὶ λάφυρα πλεῖστα ἐμερίσαντο, ἰσομοίρους ἑαυτοὺς καὶ τοῖς ἡκισμένοις, καὶ ὀρφανοῖς, καὶ χήραις, ἔτι δὲ καὶ πρεσβυτέροις ποιήσαντες. Ὅπλολογήσαν- ³¹ τες δὲ αὐτοὺς, ἐπιμελῶς πάντα συνέθηκαν εἰς τοὺς ἐπικαίρους τόπους, τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ τῶν σκύλων ἠνεγκαν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα.

32 Τὸν δὲ φυλάρχην τῶν περὶ Τιμόθεον ἀνείλον, ἀνοσιώτατον
33 ἄνδρα καὶ πολλὰ τοὺς Ἰουδαίους ἐπιλελυπηκότα. Ἐπινίκια
δὲ ἄγοντες ἐν τῇ πατρίδι, τοὺς ἐμπρήσαντας τοὺς ἱεροὺς
πυλῶνας, Καλλισθένην, καὶ τινες ἄλλους ὑφῆψαν εἰς ἐν
οἰκίδιον πεφευγότας, οἳ τινες ἄξιον τῆς δυσσεβείας ἐκομίσαντο
μισθόν.

34 Ὁ δὲ τρισαλιτήριος Νικάνωρ, ὁ τοὺς χιλίους ἐμπόρους ἐπὶ
35 τὴν πράσιν τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἀγαγὼν, ταπεινωθεὶς ὑπὸ τῶν κατ'
αὐτὸν νομιζομένων ἐλαχίστων εἶναι, τῇ τοῦ Κυρίου βοηθείᾳ,
τὴν δοξικὴν ἀποθέμενος ἐσθήτα, διὰ τῆς μεσογειῶν, δραπετεύου
τρόπον ἔρημον ἑαυτὸν ποιήσας, ἦκεν εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν, ὑπεράγαν
36 δυσσημερήσας ἐπὶ τῇ τοῦ στρατοῦ διαφθορᾷ. Καὶ ὁ τοῖς
Ῥωμαίοις ἀναδεξάμενος φόρον ἀπὸ τῆς τῶν ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις
αἰχμαλωσίας κατορθώσασθαι, κατήγγελλεν ὑπέρμαχον ἔχειν
τὸν Θεὸν τοὺς Ἰουδαίους, καὶ διὰ τὸν τρόπον τοῦτον ἀτρώτους
εἶναι τοὺς Ἰουδαίους, διὰ τὸ ἀκολουθεῖν τοῖς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ προτε-
ταγμένοις νόμοις.

9 Περὶ δὲ τὸν καιρὸν ἐκείνον ἐτύγχανεν Ἀντίοχος ἀναλελυκὸς
2 ἀκόσμως ἐκ τῶν κατὰ τὴν Περσίδα τόπων. Εἰσεληλύθει γὰρ
εἰς τὴν λεγομένην Περσέπολιν, καὶ ἐπεχείρησεν ἱεροσυλεῖν,
καὶ τὴν πόλιν συνέχειν· διὸ δὴ τῶν πληθύν ὀρμησάντων, ἐπὶ
τὴν τῶν ὀπλῶν βοήθειαν ἐτράπησαν· καὶ συνέβη τροπωθέντα
τὸν Ἀντίοχον ὑπὸ τῶν ἐγχωρίων, ἀσχήμονα τὴν ἀναζυγὴν
ποιήσασθαι.

3 Ὅντι δὲ αὐτῷ κατ' Ἐκβάτανα, προσέειπε τὰ κατὰ Νικά-
4 νορα, καὶ τοὺς περὶ Τιμόθεον, γεγονότα. Ἐπαρθεὶς δὲ τῷ
θυμῷ, ᾤετο καὶ τὴν τῶν πεφυγαδευκότων αὐτὸν κακίαν εἰς
τοὺς Ἰουδαίους ἐναπερεΐσασθαι· διὸ συνέταξε τὸν ἄρματηλάτην
ἀδιαλείπτως ἐλαύνοντα κατανύειν τὴν πορείαν, τῆς ἐξ οὐρα-
νοῦ δὴ κρίσεως συνουσίας αὐτῷ· οὕτω γὰρ ὑπερηφάνως εἶπε,
πολυάνδριον Ἰουδαίων Ἱεροσόλυμα ποιήσω παραγενόμενος
ἐκεῖ.

5 Ὁ δὲ πανεπόπτης Κύριος ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ ἐπάταξεν
αὐτὸν ἀνιάτῳ καὶ ἀοράτῳ πληγῇ· ἄρτι δὲ αὐτοῦ καταλήξαντος
τὸν λόγον, ἔλαβεν αὐτὸν ἀνήκεστος τῶν σπλάγχων ἀλγηδὼν,
6 καὶ πικραὶ τῶν ἔνδον βάσανοι, πάνυ δικαίως, τὸν πολλαῖς
καὶ ξενιζούσαις συμφοραῖς ἐτέρων σπλάγχνα βασάνισαντα.

7 Ὁ δ' οὐδαμῶς τῆς ἀγερωχίας ἔληγεν· ἔτι δὲ καὶ τῆς ὑπερη-
φανίας ἐπεπλήρωτο, πῦρ πνέων τοῖς θυμοῖς ἐπὶ τοὺς Ἰουδαί-
ους, καὶ κελεύων ἐποξύνειν τὴν πορείαν· συνέβη δὲ καὶ πεσεῖν
αὐτὸν ἀπὸ τοῦ ἁρματος φερομένου ροίζῳ, καὶ δυσχερεῖ πτώματι
περιπεσόντα, πάντα τὰ μέλη τοῦ σώματος ἀποστρεβλοῦσθαι.

8 Ὁ δ' ἄρτι δοκῶν τοῖς τῆς θαλάσσης κύμασιν ἐπιτάσσειν,
διὰ τὴν ὑπὲρ ἄνθρωπον ἀλαζονείαν, καὶ πλάστιγγι τὰ τῶν
ὄρέων οἰόμενος ὕψη στήσειν, κατὰ γῆν γενόμενος, ἐν φορείῳ
παρεκομίζετο, φανεράν τοῦ Θεοῦ πᾶσι τὴν δύναμιν ἐνδεικνύ-
9 μενος· ὥστε καὶ ἐκ τοῦ σώματος τοῦ δυσσεβοῦς σκώληκας
ἀναζεῖν, καὶ ζῶντος ἐν ὀδύναις καὶ ἀλγηδόσι τὰς σάρκας αὐτοῦ
διαπίπτειν, ὑπὸ δὲ τῆς ὁσμῆς αὐτοῦ πᾶν τὸ στρατόπεδον βα-
10 ρύνεσθαι τῇ σαπρίᾳ. Καὶ τὸν μικρῷ πρότερον τῶν οὐρανίων

32 They slew also Philarches, that wicked
person, who was with Timotheus, and had
annoyed the Jews many ways. 33 Further-
more at such time as they kept the feast
for the victory in their country they burnt
Callisthenes, [and some others] that had set
fire upon the holy gates, who had fled into
a little house; and they received a reward
meet for their wickedness.

34 As for that most ungracious Nicanor,
who had brought a thousand merchants to
buy the Jews, 35 he was through the help of
the Lord brought down by them, of whom
he made least account; and putting off his
glorious apparel, and discharging his com-
pany, he came like a fugitive servant through
the midland unto Antioch, having very great
dishonour, for that his host was destroyed.
36 Thus he, that took upon him to make
good to the Romans their tribute by means
of the captives in Jerusalem, told abroad,
that the Jews had God to fight for them,
and therefore they could not be hurt, be-
cause they followed the laws that he gave
them.

About that time came Antiochus with
dishonour out of the country of Persia.
2 For he had entered the city called Perse-
polis, and went about to rob the temple,
and to hold the city; whereupon the mul-
titude running to defend themselves with
their weapons put them to flight; and so it
happened, that Antiochus being put to
flight of the inhabitants returned with
shame.

3 Now when he came to Ecbatane, news
was brought him what had happened unto
Nicanor and Timotheus. 4 Then swelling
with anger, he thought to avenge upon the
Jews the disgrace done unto him by those
that made him flee. Therefore commanded
he his chariotman to drive without ceasing,
and to dispatch the journey, the judgment
of God now following him. For he had
spoken proudly in this sort, That he would
come to Jerusalem, and make it a common
burying place of the Jews.

5 But the Lord Almighty, the God of Is-
rael, smote him with an incurable and in-
visible plague: for as soon as he had spoken
these words, a pain of the bowels that was
remediless came upon him, and sore tor-
ments of the inner parts; 6 and that most
justly: for he had tormented other men's
bowels with many and strange torments.

7 Howbeit he nothing at all ceased from
his bragging, but still was filled with pride,
breathing out fire in his rage against the
Jews, and commanding to haste the jour-
ney: but it came to pass that he fell down
from his chariot, carried violently; so that
having a sore fall, all the members of his
body were much pained.

8 And thus he that a little afore thought
he might command the waves of the sea, (so
proud was he beyond the condition of men)
and weigh the high mountains in a balance,
was now cast on the ground, and carried in
an horselitter, shewing forth unto all the
manifest power of God. 9 So that the
worms rose up out of the body of this wicked
man, and whiles he lived in sorrow and
pain, his flesh fell away, and the filthiness of
his smell was noisome to all his army.
10 And the man, that thought a little afore

he could reach to the stars of heaven, no man could endure to carry for his intolerable stink.

¹¹ Here therefore, being plagued, he began to leave off his great pride, and to come to the knowledge of himself by the scourge of God, his pain increasing every moment.

¹² And when he himself could not abide his own smell, he said these words, It is meet to be subject unto God, and that a man that is mortal should not proudly think of himself, as if he were God.

¹³ This wicked person vowed also unto the Lord, who now no more would have mercy upon him, saying thus, ¹⁴ That the holy city (to the which he was going in haste, to lay it even with the ground, and to make it a common burying place,) he would set at liberty: ¹⁵ and as touching the Jews, whom he had judged not worthy so much as to be buried, but to be cast out with their children to be devoured of the fowls and wild beasts, he would make them all equals to the citizens of Athens: ¹⁶ and the holy temple, which before he had spoiled, he would garnish with goodly gifts, and restore all the holy vessels with many more, and out of his own revenue defray the charges belonging to the sacrifices: ¹⁷ yea, and that also he would become a Jew himself, and go through all the world that was inhabited, and declare the power of God.

¹⁸ But for all this his pains would not cease: for the just judgment of God was come upon him: therefore despairing of his health, he wrote unto the Jews the letter underwritten, containing the form of a supplication, after this manner:

¹⁹ Antiochus, king and governor, to the good Jews his citizens wisheth much joy, health, and prosperity: ²⁰ if ye and your children fare well, and your affairs be to your contentment, I give very great thanks to God, having my hope in heaven.

²¹ As for me, I was weak, or else I would have remembered kindly your honour and good will. Returning out of Persia, and being taken with a grievous disease, I thought it necessary to care for the common safety of all: ²² not distrusting mine health, but having great hope to escape this sickness. ²³ But considering that even my father, at what time he led an army into the high countries, appointed a successor, ²⁴ to the end that, if any thing fell out contrary to expectation, or if any tidings were brought that were grievous, they of the land, knowing to whom the state was left, might not be troubled:

²⁵ Again, considering how that the princes that are borderers and neighbours unto my kingdom wait for opportunities, and expect what shall be the event, I have appointed my son Antiochus king, whom I often committed and commended unto many of you, when I went up into the high provinces; to whom I have written as followeth:

²⁶ Therefore I pray and request you to remember the benefits that I have done unto you generally, and in special, and that every man will be still faithful to me and my son. ²⁷ For I am persuaded that he understanding my mind will favourably and graciously yield to your desires.

²⁸ Thus the murderer and blasphemer

ἄστρον ἄπτεσθαι δοκοῦντα, παρακομίζειν οὐδεὶς ἐδύνατο, διὰ τὸ τῆς ὁσμῆς ἀφόρητον βάρος.

Ἐνταῦθα οὖν ἤρξατο τὸ πολὺ τῆς ὑπερφηανίας λήγειν ¹¹ ὑποτεθραυσμένος, καὶ εἰς ἐπίγνωσιν ἔρχεσθαι θείᾳ μάστιγι κατὰ στιγμήν ἐπιτεινόμενος ταῖς ἀλγηδόσι. Καὶ μηδὲ τῆς ¹² ὁσμῆς αὐτοῦ δυνάμενος ἀνέχεσθαι, ταῦτ' ἔφη, δίκαιον ὑποτάσσεσθαι τῷ Θεῷ, καὶ μὴ θνήτὸν ὄντα ἰσόθεα φρονεῖν ὑπερφανῶς.

Ἦρχετο δὲ ὁ μιαρὸς πρὸς τὸν οὐκέτι αὐτὸν ἐλεήσοντα δεσπότην, οὕτω λέγων, τὴν μὲν ἁγίαν πόλιν ἣν σπεύδων παρεγίνετο ¹⁴ ἰσόπεδον ποιῆσαι, καὶ πολυάνδριον οἰκοδομῆσαι, ἐλευθέραν ἀναδείξαι. τοὺς δὲ Ἰουδαίους οὓς διεγνώκει μηδὲ ταφῆς ¹⁵ ἀξιώσαι, οἰωνοβρώτους δὲ σὺν τοῖς νηπίοις ἐκρίψειν θηρίοις, πάντας αὐτοὺς ἴσους Ἀθηναίοις ποιήσειν. ὃν δὲ πρότερον ¹⁶ ἐσκύλευσεν ἅγιον νεῶν, καλλίστοις ἀναθήμασι κοσμήσειν, καὶ τὰ ἱερὰ σκευὴ πολυπλάσια πάντα ἀποδώσειν, τὰς δὲ ἐπιβαλλούσας πρὸς τὰς θυσίας συντάξεις ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων προσόδων χορηγήσειν. πρὸς δὲ τούτοις, καὶ Ἰουδαῖον ἔσεσθαι, καὶ ¹⁷ πάντα τόπον οἰκητὸν ἐπελεύσεσθαι καταγγέλλοντα τὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ κράτος.

Οὐδαμῶς δὲ ληγόντων τῶν πόνων, ἐπεληλύθει γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτὸν ¹⁸ δικαία ἡ τοῦ Θεοῦ κρίσις, τὰ κατ' αὐτὸν ἀπελπίσας, ἔγραψε πρὸς τοὺς Ἰουδαίους τὴν ὑπογεγραμμένην ἐπιστολὴν, ἱκετηρίας τάξιν ἔχουσαν, περιέχουσαν δὲ οὕτως·

Τοῖς χρηστοῖς Ἰουδαίοις τοῖς πολίταις πολλὰ χαίρειν, καὶ ¹⁹ ὑγιαίνειν, καὶ εὖ πράττειν, βασιλεὺς καὶ στρατηγὸς Ἀντίοχος. Εἰ ἔρρωσθε, καὶ τὰ τέκνα καὶ τὰ ἴδια κατὰ γνώμην ἐστὶν ²⁰ ὑμῖν, εὐχομαι μὲν τῷ Θεῷ τὴν μεγίστην χάριν, εἰς οὐρανὸν τὴν ἐλπίδα ἔχων.

Κἀγὼ δὲ ἀσθενῶς διεκείμεν, ὑμῶν τὴν τιμὴν καὶ τὴν ²¹ εὐνοίαν ἂν ἐμνημόνεον φιλοστόργως· ἐπανάγων ἐκ τῶν περὶ τὴν Περσίδα τόπων, καὶ περιπεσὼν ἀσθενείᾳ δυσχέριαν ἐχούσῃ, ἀναγκαῖον ἡγησάμην φροντίσαι τῆς κοινῆς πάντων ἀσφαλείας. Οὐκ ἀπογινώσκων τὰ κατ' ἐμαυτὸν, ἀλλὰ ἔχων ²² πολλὴν ἐλπίδα ἐκφεύξεσθαι τὴν ἀσθένειαν, θεωρῶν δὲ ὅτι καὶ ²³ ὁ πατὴρ καθ' οὓς καιροὺς εἰς τοὺς ἄνω τόπους ἐστρατοπέδευσεν, ἀνέδειξε τὸν διαδεζόμενον, ὅπως εἰάν τι παράδοξον ἀπο- ²⁴ βαίνη, ἢ καὶ προσαγγελθῇ τι δυσχερὲς, εἰδότες οἱ κατὰ τὴν χώραν ὃ καταλέλειπται τὰ πράγματα, μὴ ἐπιταράσσωνται.

Πρὸς δὲ τούτοις κατανοῶν τοὺς παρακειμένους δυνάστας, ²⁵ καὶ γειτνιώντας τῇ βασιλείᾳ τοῖς καιροῖς ἐπέχοντας, προσδεχομένους τὸ ἀποβησόμενον, ἀναδέδειχα τὸν υἱόν μου Ἀντίοχον βασιλέα, ὃν πολλάκις ἀνατρέχων εἰς τὰς ἐπάνω σατραπείας τοῖς πλείστοις ὑμῶν παρακατετιθέμην καὶ συνίστων· γέγραφα δὲ πρὸς αὐτὸν τὰ ὑπογεγραμμένα·

Παρακαλῶ οὖν ὑμᾶς καὶ ἀξιῶ, μεμνημένους τῶν εὐεργεσιῶν ²⁶ κοινῇ καὶ κατιδίαν, ἕκαστον συντηρεῖν τὴν οὖσαν εὐνοίαν εἰς ἐμέ καὶ τὸν υἱόν μου. Πέπεισμαι γὰρ αὐτὸν ἐπιεικῶς καὶ ²⁷ φιλανθρώπως παρακολουθοῦντα τῇ ἐμῇ προαιρέσει, συμπεριενεχθήσεσθαι ὑμῖν.

Ὁ μὲν οὖν ἀνδροφόνος καὶ βλάβσφημος τὰ χερίστα παθὼν, ²⁸

ὥς ἑτέρους διέθηκεν, ἐπὶ ξένης ἐν τοῖς ὄρεσιν οἰκτίστῳ μὶν
29 κατέστρεψε τὸν βίον. Παρεκομίζετο δὲ τὸ σῶμα Φίλιππος
ὁ σύντροφος αὐτοῦ· ὃς καὶ διευλαβηθεὶς τὸν υἱὸν Ἀντιόχου,
πρὸς Πτολεμαῖον τὸν Φιλομήτορα εἰς Αἴγυπτον διεκομίσθη.

10 Μακκαβαῖος δὲ καὶ οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ, τοῦ Κυρίου προάγοντος
2 αὐτοὺς, τὸ μὲν ἱερὸν ἐκομίσαντο καὶ τὴν πόλιν, τοὺς δὲ κατὰ
τὴν ἀγορὰν βωμοὺς ὑπὸ τῶν ἀλλοφύλων δεδημιουργημένους,
ἔτι δὲ τεμένη καθεῖλον.

3 Καὶ τὸν νεὼν καθάρισαντες, ἕτερον θυσιαστήριον ἐποίησαν,
καὶ πυρώσαντες λίθους, καὶ πῦρ ἐκ τούτων λαβόντες, ἀνένεγκαν
θυσίαν μετὰ διετῇ χρόνον, καὶ θυμίαμα καὶ λύχνους, καὶ τῶν
4 ἄρτων τὴν πρόθεσιν ἐποίησαντο. Ταῦτα δὲ ποιήσαντες ἡξίω-
σαν τὸν Κύριον πεσόντες ἐπὶ κοιλίαν, μηκέτι περιπεσεῖν
τοιούτοις κακοῖς, ἀλλ' ἂν ποτε καὶ ἁμάρτωσιν, ὑπ' αὐτοῦ μετ'
ἐπιεικείας παιδεύεσθαι, καὶ μὴ βλασφήμοις καὶ βαρβάροις
ἔθνεσι παραδίδοσθαι.

5 Ἐν ᾗ δὲ ἡμέρᾳ ὁ νεὼς ὑπὸ ἀλλοφύλων ἐβεβηλώθη, συνέβη
κατὰ τὴν αὐτὴν ἡμέραν τὸν καθαρισμὸν γενέσθαι τοῦ ναοῦ,
τῇ πέμπτῃ καὶ εἰκάδι τοῦ αὐτοῦ μηνὸς, ὅς ἐστι Χασελεῦ.

6 Καὶ μετ' εὐφροσύνης ἦγον ἡμέρας ὀκτὼ σκηνωμάτων τρό-
πον, μνημονεύοντες ὡς πρὸ μικροῦ χρόνου τὴν τῶν σκηνῶν
ἐορτὴν ἐν τοῖς ὄρεσι καὶ ἐν τοῖς σπηλαίοις θηρίων τρόπον ἦσαν
7 νεμόμενοι. Διὸ θύρσους καὶ κλάδους ὠραίους, ἔτι δὲ φοίνικας
ἔχοντες, ὕμνους ἀνέφερον τῷ εὐδῶσαντι καθαρισθῆναι τὸν
8 ἑαυτοῦ τόπον. Ἐδογμάτισαν δὲ μετὰ κοινῷ προστάγματος
καὶ ψηφίσματος παντὶ τῷ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἔθνει κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν
ἄγειν τὰςδε τὰς ἡμέρας.

9 Καὶ τὰ μὲν τῆς Ἀντιόχου τοῦ προσαγορευθέντος Ἐπιφανοῦς
τελευτῆς οὕτως εἶχε.

10 Νυνὶ δὲ τὰ κατὰ τὸν Εὐπάτορα Ἀντίοχον, υἱὸν δὲ τοῦ
ἀσεβοῦς γενόμενον, δηλώσομεν, αὐτὰ συντέμνοντες τὰ τῶν
11 πολέμων κακά. Αὐτὸς γὰρ παραλαβὼν βασιλείαν, ἀνέδειξεν
ἐπὶ τῶν πραγμάτων Λυσίαν τινα, κοίλης δὲ Συρίας καὶ Φοινίκης
στρατηγὸν πρῶταρχον.

12 Πτολεμαῖος γὰρ ὁ καλούμενος Μάκρων τὸ δίκαιον συντηρεῖν
προηγούμενος εἰς τοὺς Ἰουδαίους διὰ τὴν γεγυῖαν εἰς αὐτοὺς
ἀδικίαν, καὶ ἐπειράτο τὰ πρὸς αὐτοὺς εἰρηνικῶς διεξάγειν.

13 Ὅθεν κατηγορούμενος ὑπὸ τῶν φίλων πρὸς τὸν Εὐπάτορα, καὶ
προδότης παρέκαστα ἀκούων, διὰ τὸ τὴν Κύπρον ἐμπιστευθέντα
ὑπὸ τοῦ Φιλομήτορος ἐκλιπεῖν, καὶ πρὸς Ἀντίοχον τὸν Ἐπιφανῆ
ἀναχωρῆσαι, μήτ' εὐγενῇ τὴν ἐξουσίαν ἔχων, ὑπ' ἀθυμίας
φαρμακεύσας ἑαυτὸν ἐξέλιπε τὸν βίον.

14 Γοργίας δὲ γενόμενος στρατηγὸς τῶν τόπων, ἐξενοτρόφει,
15 καὶ παρέκαστα πρὸς τοὺς Ἰουδαίους ἐπολεμοτρόφει. Ὁμοῦ
δὲ τούτῳ καὶ οἱ Ἰδουμαῖοι ἐγκρατεῖς ἐπικαίρων ὀχυρωμάτων
ὄντες, ἐγύμναζον τοὺς Ἰουδαίους, καὶ τοὺς φυγαδευθέντας ἀπὸ
Ἱεροσολύμων προσλαβόμενοι πολεμοτρόφειν ἐπεχείρουν.

16 Οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον ποιησάμενοι λιτανείαν, καὶ ἀξιώ-
σαντες τὸν Θεὸν σύμμαχον αὐτοῖς γενέσθαι, ἐπὶ τὰ τῶν Ἰδου-
17 μαίων ὀχυρώματα ὤρμησαν, οἷς καὶ προσβαλόντες εὐρώστως,

having suffered most grievously, as he en-
treated other men, so died he a miserable
death in a strange country in the moun-
tains. ²⁹And Philip, that was brought up
with him, carried away his body, who also
fearing the son of Antiochus went into
Egypt to Ptolemeus Philometor.

Now Maccabeus and his company, the
Lord guiding them, recovered the temple
and the city: ²but the altars which the
heathen had built in the open street, and
also the chapels, they pulled down.

³And having cleansed the temple they
made another altar, and striking stones
they took fire out of them, and offered a
sacrifice after two years, and set forth in-
cense, and lights, and shewbread. ⁴When
that was done, they fell flat down, and be-
sought the Lord that they might come no
more into such troubles; but if they sinned
any more against him, that he himself
would chasten them with mercy, and that
they might not be delivered unto the blas-
phemous and barbarous nations.

⁵Now upon the same day that the stran-
gers profaned the temple, on the very same
day it was cleansed again, even the five
and twentieth day of the same month,
which is Casleu.

⁶And they kept eight days with gladness,
as in the feast of the tabernacles, remem-
bering that not long afore they had held
the feast of the tabernacles, when as they
wandered in the mountains and dens like
beasts. ⁷Therefore they bare branches, and
fair boughs, and palms also, and sang psalms
unto him that had given them good success
in cleansing his place. ⁸They ordained also
by a common statute and decree, That
every year those days should be kept of the
whole nation of the Jews.

⁹And this was the end of Antiochus, called
Epiphanes.

¹⁰Now will we declare the acts of Antio-
chus Eupator, who was the son of this wicked
man, gathering briefly the calamities of the
wars. ¹¹So when he was come to the crown,
he set one Lysias over the affairs of his
realm, and appointed him chief governor of
Celysria and Phenice.

¹²For Ptolemeus, that was called Maeron,
choosing rather to do justice unto the Jews
for the wrong that had been done unto
them, endeavoured to continue peace with
them. ¹³Whereupon being accused of the
king's friends before Eupator, and called
traitor at every word, because he had left
Cyprus, that Philometor had committed
unto him, and departed to Antiochus Epi-
phanes, and seeing that he was in no honour-
able place, he was so discouraged, that he
poisoned himself and died.

¹⁴But when Gorgias was governor of the
holds, he hired soldiers, and nourished war
continually with the Jews; ¹⁵and there-
withal the Idumeans, having gotten into
their hands the most commodious holds,
kept the Jews occupied, and receiving those
that were banished from Jerusalem, they
went about to nourish war.

¹⁶Then they that were with Maccabeus
made supplication, and besought God that
he would be their helper; and so they ran
with violence upon the strong holds of the
Idumeans, ¹⁷and assaulting them strongly,

they won the holds, and kept off all that fought upon the wall, and slew all that fell into their hands, and killed no fewer than twenty thousand.

¹⁸And because certain, who were no less than nine thousand, were fled together into two very strong castles, having all manner of things convenient to *sustain* the siege, ¹⁹Maccabeus left Simon and Joseph, and Zaccheus also, and them that were with him, who were enough to besiege them, and departed himself unto those places which more needed his help.

²⁰Now they that were with Simon, being led with covetousness, were persuaded for money through certain of those that were in the castle, and took seventy thousand drachms, and let some of them escape. ²¹But when it was told Maccabeus what was done, he called the governors of the people together, and accused those men, that they had sold their brethren for money, and set their enemies free to fight against them. ²²So he slew those that were found traitors, and immediately took the two castles. ²³And having good success with his weapons in all things he took in hand, he slew in the two holds more than twenty thousand.

²⁴Now Timotheus, whom the Jews had overcome before, when he had gathered a great multitude of foreign forces, and horses out of Asia not a few, came as though he would take Jewry by force of arms. ²⁵But when he drew near, they that were with Maccabeus turned themselves to pray unto God, and sprinkled earth upon their heads, and girded their loins with sackcloth, ²⁶and fell down at the foot of the altar, and besought him to be merciful to them, and to be an enemy to their enemies, and an adversary to their adversaries, as the law declareth. ²⁷So after the prayer they took their weapons, and went on further from the city: and when they drew near to their enemies, they kept by themselves.

²⁸Now the sun being newly risen, they joined both together; the one part having together with their virtue their refuge also unto the Lord for a pledge of their success and victory: the other side making their rage leader of their battle.

²⁹But when the battle waxed strong, there appeared unto the enemies from heaven five comely men upon horses, with bridles of gold, and two of them led the Jews, ³⁰and took Maccabeus betwixt them, and covered him on every side with their weapons, and kept him safe, but shot arrows and lightnings against the enemies: so that being confounded with blindness, and full of trouble, they were killed. ³¹And there were slain of *footmen* twenty thousand and five hundred, and six hundred horsemen.

³²As for Timotheus himself, he fled into a very strong hold, called Gazara, where Chereas was governor.

³³But they that were with Maccabeus laid siege against the fortress courageously four days. ³⁴And they that were within, trusting to the strength of the place, blasphemed exceedingly, and uttered wicked words.

³⁵Nevertheless upon the fifth day early twenty young men of Maccabeus' company, inflamed with anger because of the blas-

φημοκρατεῖς ἐγένοντο τῶν τόπων, πάντας τε τοὺς ἐπὶ τῷ τείλει μαχομένους ἡμύναντο· κατέσφαζον δὲ τοὺς ἐμπίπτοντας, ἀνείλον δὲ οὐχ ἦττον τῶν δισμυρίων.

Συμφυγόντων δὲ οὐκ ἔλαττον τῶν ἐννακισχιλίων εἰς δύο 18 πύργους ὄχυρους εὖ μάλα, καὶ πάντα τὰ πρὸς πολιορκίαν ἔχοντας, ὁ Μακκαβαῖος εἰς ἐπείγοντας τόπους ἀπολιπὼν 19 Σίμωνα καὶ Ἰώσηφον, ἔτι δὲ καὶ Ζακχαῖον καὶ τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ ἱκανοὺς πρὸς τὴν τούτων πολιορκίαν, αὐτὸς ἐχωρίσθη.

Οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν Σίμωνα φιλαργυρήσαντες ὑπὸ τινων τῶν ἐν 20 τοῖς πύργοις ἐπείσθησαν ἀργυρίῳ· ἐπτάκις δὲ μυριάδας δραχμὰς λαβόντες, εἰσάν τινας διαρρήνῃαι. Προσαγγελθέντος δὲ τῷ 21 Μακκαβαίῳ περὶ τοῦ γεγονότος, συναγαγὼν τοὺς ἡγουμένους τοῦ λαοῦ, κατηγορήσεν ὡς ἀργυρίου πεπράκασιν τοὺς ἀδελφούς, τοὺς πολεμίους κατ' αὐτῶν ἀπολύσαντες. Τούτους μὲν οὖν 22 προδότας γενομένους ἀπέκτεινε, καὶ παραχρήμα τοὺς δύο πύργους κατελάβετο. Τοῖς δὲ ὅλοις τὰ πάντα ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν 23 εὐδοούμενος, ἀπώλεσεν ἐν τοῖς δυσὶν ὄχυρώμασι πλείους τῶν δισμυρίων.

Τιμόθεος δὲ ὁ πρότερον ἡττηθεὶς ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, συν- 24 αγαγὼν ξένας δυνάμεις παμπληθεῖς, καὶ τοὺς τῆς Ἀσίας γενομένους ἵππους συναθροίσας οὐκ ὀλίγους, παρῆν ὡς δοριάλωτον ληψόμενος τὴν Ἰουδαίαν. Οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον, 25 συνεγγίζοντος αὐτοῦ, πρὸς ἱκετίαν τοῦ Θεοῦ ἐτράπησαν, γῇ τὰς κεφαλὰς καταπάσαντες, καὶ τὰς ὀσφύας σάκκοις ζώσαντες, ἐπὶ τὴν ἀπέναντι τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου κρηπίδα προσπεσόντες, 26 ἡξίουσαν ἰλεῶν αὐτοῖς γεγόμενον ἐχθρεῦσαι τοῖς ἐχθροῖς αὐτῶν, καὶ ἀντικεῖσθαι τοῖς ἀντικειμένοις, καθὼς ὁ νόμος διασαφεῖ. Γεγόμενοι δὲ ἀπὸ τῆς δεήσεως, ἀναλαβόντες τὰ ὅπλα, προῆγον 27 ἀπὸ τῆς πόλεως ἐπὶ πλείον· συνεγγίσαντες δὲ τοῖς πολεμίους, ἐφ' ἑαυτῶν ἦσαν.

Ἄρτι δὲ τῆς ἀνατολῆς διαδεχομένης, προσέβαλον ἑκάτεροι 28 οἱ μὲν ἔγνων ἔχοντες εὐημερίας καὶ νίκης μετ' ἀρετῆς τὴν ἐπὶ τὸν Κύριον καταφυγὴν, οἱ δὲ καθηγεμόνα τῶν ἀγώνων ταπτόμενοι τὸν θυμόν.

Γενομένης δὲ καρτερᾶς μάχης, ἐφάνησαν τοῖς ὑπεναντίοις ἐξ 29 οὐρανοῦ ἐφ' ἵππων χρυσοχαλίνων ἄνδρες πέντε διαπρεπεῖς, καὶ ἀφηγούμενοι τῶν Ἰουδαίων οἱ δύο, καὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον μέσον 30 λαβόντες, καὶ σκεπάζοντες ταῖς ἑαυτῶν πανοπλίαις, ἄτρωτον διεφύλαττον· εἰς δὲ τοὺς ὑπεναντίους τοξεύματα καὶ κεραυνοὺς ἐξερρίπτουν· διὸ συγχυθέντες ἀορασίᾳ, κατεκόπτοντο ταραχῆς πεπληρωμένοι. Κατεσφάγησαν δὲ δισμύριοι πρὸς τοῖς πεντα- 31 κοσίοις, ἱππεῖς δὲ ἐξακόσιοι.

Αὐτὸς δὲ ὁ Τιμόθεος συνέφυγεν εἰς Γάζαρα λεγόμενον ὄχυ- 32 ρωμα, εὖ μάλα φρούριον, στρατηγούντος ἐκεῖ Χαιρέου.

Οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον ἄσμενοι περιεκάθισαν τὸ φρού- 33 ριον ἡμέρας τέσσαρας. Οἱ δὲ ἔνδον τῇ ἐρμυνότητι τοῦ τόπου 34 πεποιθότες, ὑπεράγαν ἐβλασφήμουν, καὶ λόγους ἀθεμίτους προῖοντο.

Ὑποφαινούσης δὲ τῆς πέμπτης ἡμέρας, ἕκοσι νεανῖαι τῶν 35 περὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον πυρωθέντες τοῖς θυμοῖς διὰ τὰς βλασφη-

- μίας, προσβαλόντες τῷ τείχει, ἀρρηνωδῶς καὶ θηριῶδει θυμῷ
 36 τὸν ἐμπίπτοντα ἔκοπτον, ἕτεροι δὲ ὁμοίως προσαναβάντες ἐν
 τῷ περισπασμῷ πρὸς τοὺς ἔνδον, ἐνεπίμπρων τοὺς πύργους, καὶ
 πυρὰς ἀνάψαντες ζῶντας τοὺς βλασφήμους κατέκαιον· οἱ δὲ
 37 τὰς πύλας διέκοπτον, εἰσδεξάμενοι δὲ τὴν λοιπὴν τάξιν, προ-
 κατελάβοντο τὴν πόλιν, καὶ τὸν Τιμόθεον ἀποκεκρυμμένον ἐν
 τινὶ λάκκῳ κατέσφαξαν, καὶ τὸν τούτου ἀδελφὸν Χαιρέαν, καὶ
 τὸν Ἀπολλοφάνη.
 38 Ταῦτα δὲ διαπραξάμενοι, μεθ' ὕμνων καὶ ἐξομολογήσεων
 εὐλόγουν τῷ Κυρίῳ τῷ μεγάλῳ εὐεργετοῦντι τὸν Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ
 τὸ νίκος αὐτοῖς διδόντι.
 11 Μετ' ὀλίγον δὲ παντελῶς χρόνον Λυσίας ἐπίτροπος τοῦ
 βασιλέως καὶ συγγενῆς, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν πραγμάτων, λίαν βαρέως
 2 φέρων ἐπὶ τοῖς γεγονόσι, συναθροίσας περὶ τὰς ὀκτὼ μυριάδας
 καὶ τὴν ἵππον πᾶσαν, παρεγένετο ἐπὶ τοὺς Ἰουδαίους, λογιζό-
 3 μενος τὴν μὲν πόλιν Ἑλλησιν οἰκητήριον ποιήσειν, τὸ δὲ ἱερὸν
 ἀργυρολόγητον καθὼς τὰ λοιπὰ τῶν ἐθνῶν τεμένη, πρατὴν δὲ
 4 τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην κατ' ἔτος ποιήσειν, οὐδαμῶς ἐπιλογιζόμενος
 τὸ τοῦ Θεοῦ κράτος, πεφρενωμένος δὲ ταῖς μυριάσι τῶν πεζῶν
 καὶ ταῖς χιλιάσι τῶν ἵππῶν καὶ τοῖς ἐλέφασιν τοῖς ὀγδοήκοντα.
 5 Εἰσελθὼν δὲ εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, καὶ συνεγγίσας τῷ Βαιθ-
 σούρα, ὄντι μὲν ἐρμυνῷ χωρίῳ, ἀπὸ δὲ Ἱεροσολύμων ἀπέχοντι
 ὥσπερ σταδίου πέντε, τοῦτο ἔθλιβεν.
 6 Ὡς δὲ μετέλαβον οἱ περὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον πολιορκοῦντα
 αὐτὸν τὰ ὀχυρώματα, μετ' ὀδύρμων καὶ δακρύων ἰκέτευσεν σὺν
 τοῖς ὄχλοις τὸν Κύριον, ἀγαθὸν ἄγγελον ἀποστέλλαι πρὸς
 7 σωτηρίαν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ. Αὐτὸς δὲ πρῶτος ὁ Μακκαβαῖος ἀνα-
 λαβὼν τὰ ὄπλα προετρέψατο τοὺς ἄλλους, ἅμα αὐτῷ δια-
 κινδυνεύοντας, ἐπιβοηθεῖν τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς αὐτῶν· ὁμοῦ δὲ καὶ
 προθύμως ἐξώρμησαν.
 8 Αὐτόθι δὲ καὶ πρὸς τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμοις ὄντων, ἐφάνη προ-
 ηγούμενος αὐτῶν ἑφιππος ἐν λευκῇ ἐσθήτι, πανοπλίαν χρυσοῦ
 9 κραδαίνων. Ὁμοῦ δὲ πάντες εὐλόγησαν τὸν ἐλεήμονα Θεόν,
 καὶ ἐπερρώσθησαν ταῖς ψυχαῖς, οὐ μόνον ἀνθρώπους ἀλλὰ καὶ
 θήρας τοὺς ἀγριωτάτους, καὶ σιδηρὰ τεῖχη τιτρώσκειν ὄντες
 10 ἔτοιμοι. Προσῆγον ἐν διασκευῇ τὸν ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ σύμμαχον
 11 ἔχοντες, ἐλεήσαντος αὐτοὺς τοῦ Κυρίου. Λεοντηδὸν δὲ ἐντινά-
 ξαντες εἰς τοὺς πολεμίους, κατέστρωσαν αὐτῶν χιλίους πρὸς
 τοῖς μυρίοις, ἵππεῖς δὲ ἑξακοσίους πρὸς τοῖς χιλίοις· τοὺς δὲ
 12 πάντας ἠνάγκασαν φυγεῖν. Οἱ πλείονες δὲ αὐτῶν τραυματῖαι
 γυμνοὶ διεσώθησαν· καὶ αὐτὸς δὲ ὁ Λυσίας αἰσχροῦς φεύγων
 διεσώθη.
 13 Οὐκ ἄνους δὲ ὑπάρχων, πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ἀντιβάλλον τὸ γεγονὸς
 περὶ ἑαυτὸν ἐλάσσωμα, καὶ συννοήσας ἀνικητοὺς εἶναι τοὺς
 Ἑβραίους, τοῦ πάντα δυναμένου Θεοῦ συμμαχοῦντος αὐτοῖς,
 14 προσαποστείλας ἔπεισε συλλύσεσθαι ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς δικαίοις·
 καὶ διότι καὶ τὸν βασιλέα πείσειν φίλον αὐτοῖς ἀναγκάζειν
 15 γενέσθαι. Ἐπένευσεν δὲ ὁ Μακκαβαῖος ἐπὶ πᾶσιν οἷς ὁ Λυσίας
 παρεκάλει τοῦ συμφέροντος φροντίζων· ὅσα γὰρ ὁ Μακκαβαῖος
 ἐπέδωκε τῷ Λυσίᾳ διὰ γραπτῶν περὶ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, συνεχώρη-
 σεν ὁ βασιλεὺς.
 16 Ἦσαν γὰρ αἱ γεγραμμέναι τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις ἐπιστολαὶ παρὰ

phemies, assaulted the wall manly, and with a fierce courage killed all that they met withal. ³⁵ Others likewise ascending after them, whiles they were busied with them that were within, burnt the towers, and kindling fires burnt the blasphemers alive; and others broke open the gates, and, having received in the rest of the army, took the city, ³⁷ and killed Timotheus, that was hid in a certain pit, and Chereas his brother, with Apollophanes.

³⁸ When this was done, they praised the Lord with psalms and thanksgiving, who had done so great things for Israel, and given them the victory.

Not long after this, Lysias the king's protector and cousin, who also managed the affairs, took sore displeasure for the things that were done. ² And when he had gathered about fourscore thousand with all the horsemen, he came against the Jews, thinking to make the city an habitation of the Gentiles, ³ and to make a gain of the temple, as of the other chapels of the heathen, and to set the high priesthood to sale every year: ⁴ not at all considering the power of God, but puffed up with his ten thousands of footmen, and his thousands of horsemen, and his fourscore elephants.

⁵ So he came to Judea, and drew near to Bethsura, which was a strong town, but distant from Jerusalem about five furlongs and he laid sore siege unto it.

⁶ Now when they that were with Maccabeus heard that he besieged the holds, they and all the people with lamentation and tears besought the Lord that he would send a good angel to deliver Israel. ⁷ Then Maccabeus himself first of all took weapons, exhorting the other that they would jeopard themselves together with him to help their brethren: so they went forth together with a willing mind.

⁸ And as they were at Jerusalem, there appeared before them on horseback one in white clothing, shaking his armour of gold. ⁹ Then they praised the merciful God all together, and took heart, insomuch that they were ready not only to fight with men, but with most cruel beasts, and to pierce through walls of iron. ¹⁰ Thus they marched forward in their armour, having an helper from heaven: for the Lord was merciful unto them. ¹¹ And giving a charge upon their enemies like lions, they slew eleven thousand *footmen*, and sixteen hundred horsemen, and put all the other to flight. ¹² Many of them also being wounded escaped naked; and Lysias himself fled away shamefully, and so escaped.

¹³ Who, as he was a man of understanding, casting with himself what loss he had had, and considering that the Hebrews could not be overcome, because the Almighty God helped them, he sent unto them, ¹⁴ and persuaded them to agree to all reasonable *conditions*, and *promised* that he would persuade the king that he must needs be a friend unto them. ¹⁵ Then Maccabeus consented to all that Lysias desired, being careful of the common good; and whatsoever Maccabeus wrote unto Lysias concerning the Jews, the king granted it.

¹⁶ For there were letters written unto the

Jews from Lysias to this effect: Lysias unto the people of the Jews *sendeth* greeting: ¹⁷ John and Absalon, who were sent from you, delivered me the petition subscribed, and made request for the performance of the contents thereof. ¹⁸ Therefore what things soever were meet to be reported to the king, I have declared them, and he hath granted as much as might be. ¹⁹ If then ye will keep yourselves loyal to the state, hereafter also will I endeavour to be a means of your good. ²⁰ But of the particulars I have given order both to these, and the other that came from me, to commune with you. ²¹ Fare ye well. The hundred and eight and fortieth year, the four and twentieth day of the month Dioscorinthius.

²² Now the king's letter contained these words: King Antiochus unto his brother Lysias *sendeth* greeting: ²³ since our father is translated unto the gods, our will is, that they that are in our realm live quietly, that every one may attend upon his own affairs. ²⁴ We understand also that the Jews would not consent to our father, for to be brought unto the customs of the Gentiles, but had rather keep their own manner of living: for the which cause they require of us, that we should suffer them to live after their own laws. ²⁵ Wherefore our mind is, that this nation shall be in rest, and we have determined to restore them their temple, that they may live according to the customs of their forefathers. ²⁶ Thou shalt do well therefore to send unto them, and grant them peace, that when they are certified of our mind, they may be of good comfort, and ever go cheerfully about their own affairs.

²⁷ And the letter of the king unto the nation of the Jews was after this manner: King Antiochus *sendeth* greeting unto the council, and the rest of the Jews; ²⁸ If ye fare well, we have our desire; we are also in good health. ²⁹ Menelaus declared unto us, that your desire was to return home, and to follow your own business: ³⁰ wherefore they that will depart shall have safe conduct till the thirtieth day of Xanthicus with security. ³¹ And the Jews shall use their own kind of meats and laws, as before: and none of them any manner of ways shall be molested for things ignorantly done. ³² I have sent also Menelaus, that he may comfort you. ³³ Fare ye well. In the hundred forty and eighth year, and the fifteenth day of the month Xanthicus.

³⁴ The Romans also sent unto them a letter containing these words: Quintus Memmius and Titus Manlius, ambassadors of the Romans, *send* greeting unto the people of the Jews. ³⁵ Whatsoever Lysias the king's cousin hath granted, therewith we also are well pleased. ³⁶ But touching such things as he judged to be referred to the king, after ye have advised thereof, send one forthwith, that we may declare as it is convenient for you: for we are now going to Antioch. ³⁷ Therefore send some with speed, that we may know what is your mind. ³⁸ Farewell. This hundred and eight and fortieth year, the fifteenth day of the month Xanthicus.

When these covenants were made, Lysias went unto the king, and the Jews were about their husbandry. ² But of the governors of several places, Timotheus, and Apol-

μὲν Λυσίου περιέχουσαι τὸν τρόπον τοῦτον· Λυσίας τῷ πλήθει τῶν Ἰουδαίων χαίρειν. Ἰωάννης καὶ Ἀβεσσαλὼμ οἱ πεμφθέν- 17
τες παρ' ὑμῶν, ἐπιδόντες τὸν ὑπογεγραμμένον χρηματισμὸν, ἠξίουν περὶ τῶν δι' αὐτοῦ σημαινομένων. Ὅσα μὲν οὖν 18
ἔδει καὶ τῷ βασιλεῖ προσενεχθῆναι διεσάφησα, ἃ δὲ ἦν ἐνδε-
χόμενα, συνεχώρησεν. Ἐὰν μὲν οὖν συντηρήσῃτε τὴν εἰς τὰ 19
πράγματα εὐνοίαν, καὶ εἰς τὸ λοιπὸν πειράσομαι παραίτιος
ὑμῖν ἀγαθῶν γενέσθαι. Ὑπὲρ δὲ τῶν κατὰ μέρος ἐντέταλμαι 20
τούτοις τε καὶ τοῖς παρ' ἐμοῦ διαλεχθῆναι ὑμῖν. Ἐρῶσθε· 21
ἔτους ἑκατοστοῦ τεσσαρακοστοῦ ὀγδοῦ, Διοσκορινθίου εἰκοστῇ
τετάρτῃ.

Ἡ δὲ τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπιστολὴ περιείχεν οὕτως· βασιλεὺς 22
Ἀντίοχος τῷ ἀδελφῷ Λυσία χαίρειν. Τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν εἰς 23
θεοὺς μεταστάντος, βουλόμενοι τοὺς ἐκ τῆς βασιλείας ἀταρά-
χους ὄντας γενέσθαι πρὸς τὴν τῶν ἰδίων ἐπιμέλειαν, ἀκηκοότες 24
τοὺς Ἰουδαίους μὴ συνευδοκοῦντας τῇ τοῦ πατρὸς ἐπὶ τὰ
Ἑλληνικὰ μεταθέσει, ἀλλὰ τὴν ἑαυτῶν ἀγωγὴν αἰρετιζόντας,
καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ἀξιοῦντας συγχωρηθῆναι αὐτοῖς τὰ νόμιμα αὐτῶν·
αἰρούμενοι οὖν καὶ τοῦτο τὸ ἔθνος ἐκτὸς ταραχῆς εἶναι, κρίνο- 25
μεν τό, τε ἱερὸν αὐτοῖς ἀποκατασταθῆναι, καὶ πολιτεύεσθαι
κατὰ τὰ ἐπὶ τῶν προγόνων αὐτῶν ἔθῃ. Εὖ οὖν ποιήσεις δια- 26
πεμφάμενος πρὸς αὐτοὺς καὶ δοὺς δεξιὰς, ὅπως εἰδότες τὴν
ἡμετέραν προαίρεσιν, εὐθυμοὶ τε ᾧσι, καὶ ἡδέως διαγίνωνται
πρὸς τὴν τῶν ἰδίων ἀντίληψιν.

Πρὸς δὲ τὸ ἔθνος ἡ τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπιστολὴ τοιαύτη ἦν· 27
βασιλεὺς Ἀντίοχος τῇ γερουσίᾳ τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις
Ἰουδαίοις χαίρειν. Εἰ ἔρρωσθε, εἶη ἂν ὡς βουλόμεθα· καὶ 28
αὐτοὶ δὲ ὑγιαίνομεν. Ἐνεφάνισεν ἡμῖν ὁ Μενέλαος βούλε- 29
σθαι κατελθόντας ὑμᾶς γίνεσθαι πρὸς τοῖς ἰδίοις. Τοῖς οὖν 30
καταπορευομένοις μέχρι τριακάδος Ξανθικοῦ ὑπάρξει δεξιὰ
μετὰ τῆς ἀδείας, χρῆσθαι τοὺς Ἰουδαίους τοῖς ἑαυτῶν δαπανή- 31
μασι καὶ νόμοις καθὰ καὶ τὸ πρότερον, καὶ οὐδεὶς αὐτῶν κατ'
οὐδένα τρόπον παρενοχληθήσεται περὶ τῶν ἡγνοημένων. Πέ- 32
πομφα δὲ καὶ τὸν Μενέλαον παρακαλέσοντα ὑμᾶς. Ἐρῶσθε· 33
ἔτους ἑκατοστοῦ τεσσαρακοστοῦ ὀγδοῦ, Ξανθικοῦ πέμπτῃ καὶ
δεκάτῃ.

Ἐπεμψαν δὲ καὶ οἱ Ῥωμαῖοι πρὸς αὐτοὺς ἐπιστολὴν ἔχου- 34
σαν οὕτως· Κόϊντος Μέμμιος, Τίτος Μάνλιος, πρεσβῦται
Ῥωμαίων, τῷ δήμῳ τῶν Ἰουδαίων χαίρειν. Ὑπὲρ ὧν Λυσίας 35
ὁ συγγενὴς τοῦ βασιλέως συνεχώρησεν ὑμῖν, καὶ ἡμεῖς συνευ-
δοκοῦμεν. Ἀ δὲ ἔκρινε προσανεχθῆναι τῷ βασιλεῖ, πέμψατέ 36
τινα παραχρῆμα ἐπισκεψάμενοι περὶ τούτων, ἵνα ἐκθῶμεν ὡς
καθήκει ὑμῖν· ἡμεῖς γὰρ προσάγομεν πρὸς Ἀντιόχειαν. Διὸ 37
σπεύσατε, καὶ πέμψατέ τινας, ὅπως καὶ ἡμεῖς ἐπιγνώμεν ὅποιās
ἐστὲ γνώμης. Ὑγιαίνετε· ἔτους ἑκατοστοῦ τεσσαρακοστοῦ 38
ὀγδοῦ, Ξανθικοῦ πέμπτῃ καὶ δεκάτῃ.

Γενομένων τῶν συνθηκῶν τούτων, ὁ μὲν Λυσίας ἀπῆει πρὸς 12
τὸν βασιλέα, οἱ δὲ Ἰουδαῖοι περὶ τὴν γεωργίαν ἐγίνοντο. Τῶν 2
δὲ κατὰ τόπον στρατηγῶν Τιμόθεος καὶ Ἀπολλώνιος ὁ τοῦ

Γενναίου, ἔτι δὲ Ἱερώνυμος καὶ Δημοφών, πρὸς δὲ τούτοις Νικάνωρ ὁ Κυπριαρχὸς, οὐκ εἶων αὐτοὺς εὐσταθεῖς, καὶ τὰ τῆς ἡσυχίας ἄγειν.

- 3 Ἰοππίται δὲ τηλικούτο συνετέλεσαν τὸ δυσσέβημα· παρακαλέσαντες τοὺς σὺν αὐτοῖς οἰκοῦντας Ἰουδαίους ἐμβῆναι εἰς τὰ παρασταθέντα ὑπ' αὐτῶν σκάφη σὺν γυναιξὶ καὶ τέκνοις,
- 4 ὥς μηδεμιᾶς ἐνεστώσης πρὸς αὐτοὺς δυσμενείας, κατὰ δὲ τὸ κοινὸν τῆς πόλεως ψήφισμα, καὶ τούτων ἐπιδεξαμένων ὥς ἂν εἰρηνεύειν θελόντων, καὶ μηδὲν ὑποπτον ἐχόντων, ἐπαναχθέντας αὐτοὺς ἐβύθισαν, ὄντας οὐκ ἔλαττον τῶν διακοσίων.
- 5 Μεταλαβὼν δὲ Ἰούδας τὴν γεγονυῖαν εἰς τοὺς ὁμοεθνεῖς ὁμότητα, παραγγείλας τοῖς περὶ αὐτὸν ἀνδράσι, καὶ ἐπικαλεσάμενος τὸν δίκαιον κριτὴν Θεὸν, παρεγένετο ἐπὶ τοὺς μισαφόνους τῶν ἀδελφῶν· καὶ τὸν μὲν λιμένα νύκτωρ ἐνέπρησε, καὶ τὰ σκάφη κατέφλεξε, τοὺς δὲ ἐκεῖ συμφυγόντας ἐξεκέντησε.
- 7 Τοῦ δὲ χωρίου συγκλεισθέντος, ἀνέλυσεν, ὥς πάλιν ἦξεν καὶ τὸ σὺμπαν τῶν Ἰοππιτῶν ἐκριζῶσαι πολίτευμα.
- 8 Μεταλαβὼν δὲ καὶ τοὺς ἐν Ἰαμνείᾳ τὸν αὐτὸν ἐπιτελεῖν βουλομένους τρόπον τοῖς παροικοῦσιν Ἰουδαίοις, καὶ τοῖς Ἰαμνίταις νυκτὸς ἐπιβαλὼν, ὑψήψε τὸν λιμένα σὺν τῷ στόλῳ, ὥστε φαίνεσθαι τὰς αὐγὰς τοῦ φέγγους εἰς τὰ Ἱεροσόλυμα, σταδίων ὄντων διακοσίων τεσσαράκοντα.
- 10 Ἐκείθεν δὲ ἀποσπασθέντων σταδίου ἐννέα, ποιουμένων τὴν πορείαν ἐπὶ τὸν Τιμόθεον, προσέβαλον Ἀραβες αὐτῷ οὐκ ἐλάττους τῶν πεντακισχιλίων, ἱππεῖς δὲ πεντακόσιοι. Γενομένης δὲ καρτερᾶς μάχης, καὶ τῶν περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν διὰ τὴν παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ βοήθειαν εὐημερησάντων, ἐλαττωθέντες οἱ Νομάδες Ἀραβες ἠξίουσαν δοῦναι τὸν Ἰούδαν δεξιὰν αὐτοῖς, ὑπισχνούμενοι καὶ βοσκήματα δώσειν, καὶ ἐν τοῖς λοιποῖς ὀφελήσιν αὐτούς.
- 12 Ἰούδας δὲ ὑπολαβὼν ὥς ἀληθῶς ἐν πολλοῖς αὐτοὺς χρησίμους, ἐπεχώρησεν εἰρήνην ἄξειν πρὸς αὐτούς· καὶ λαβόντες δεξιὰς, εἰς τὰς σκηνὰς αὐτῶν ἐχωρίσθησαν.
- 13 Ἐπέβαλε δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ τινα πόλιν γεφυροῦν ὄχυναν καὶ τείχεσι περιπεφραγμένην, καὶ παμμιγέσιν ἔθνεσι κατοικουμένην, ὄνομα δὲ Κάσπιν. Οἱ δ' ἐνδον πεποιθότες τῇ τῶν τειχέων ἐρυμνότητι, τῇ τε τῶν βρωμάτων παραθέσει, ἀναγωγότερον ἐχρῶντο, τοῖς περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν λοιδοροῦντες, καὶ προσέτι βλασφημοῦντες,
- 15 καὶ λαλοῦντες ἂ μὴ θέμις. Οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν ἐπικαλεσάμενοι τὸν μέγαν τοῦ κόσμου δυνάστην, τὸν ἄτερ κριῶν καὶ μηχανῶν ὀργανικῶν κατακρημνίσαντα τὴν Ἱερὴν κατὰ τοὺς 16 Ἰησοῦ χρόνους, ἐνέσεισαν θηριωδῶς τῷ τείχει. Καταλαβόμενοι τε τὴν πόλιν τῇ τοῦ Θεοῦ θελήσει, ἀμυθήτους ἐποίησαντο σφαγὰς, ὥστε τὴν παρακειμένην λίμνην τὸ πλάτος ἔχουσαν σταδίων δύο, κατάρρυντον αἵματι πεπληρωμένην φαίνεσθαι.
- 17 Ἐκείθεν δὲ ἀποσπασάντες σταδίους ἑπτακοσίους πεντήκοντα διήνυσαν εἰς τὸν Χάρακα, πρὸς τοὺς λεγομένους Τουβιήνους 18 Ἰουδαίους. Καὶ Τιμόθεον μὲν ἐπὶ τῶν τόπων οὐ κατέλαβον, ἀπρακτὸν τε ἀπὸ τῶν τόπων ἐκκελυκότα, καταλελοιπότα δὲ

lonius the son of Genneus, also Hieronymus, and Demophon, and beside them Nicanor the governor of Cyprus, would not suffer them to be quiet, and live in peace.

³The men of Joppe also did such an ungodly deed: they prayed the Jews that dwelt among them to go with their wives and children into the boats which they had prepared, as though they had meant them no hurt. ⁴Who accepted of it according to the common decree of the city, as being desirous to live in peace and suspecting nothing: but when they were gone forth into the deep, they drowned no less than two hundred of them.

⁵When Judas heard of this cruelty done unto his countrymen, he commanded those that were with him to make them ready. ⁶And calling upon God the righteous Judge, he came against those murderers of his brethren, and burnt the haven by night, and set the boats on fire, and those that fled thither he slew. ⁷And when the town was shut up, he went backward, as if he would return to root out all them of the city of Joppe.

⁸But when he heard that the Jamnites were minded to do in like manner unto the Jews that dwelt among them, ⁹he came upon the Jamnites also by night, and set fire on the haven and the navy, so that the light of the fire was seen at Jerusalem two hundred and forty furlongs off.

¹⁰Now when they were gone from thence nine furlongs in their journey toward Timotheus, no fewer than five thousand men on foot and five hundred horsemen of the Arabians set upon him. ¹¹Whereupon there was a very sore battle; but Judas' side by the help of God got the victory; so that the Nomades of Arabia, being overcome, besought Judas for peace, promising both to give him cattle, and to pleasure him otherwise.

¹²Then Judas, thinking indeed that they would be profitable in many things, granted them peace: whereupon they shook hands, and so they departed to their tents.

¹³He went also about to make a bridge to a certain strong city, which was fenced about with walls, and inhabited by people of divers countries; and the name of it was Caspis.

¹⁴But they that were within it put such trust in the strength of the walls and provision of victuals, that they behaved themselves rudely toward them that were with Judas, railing and blaspheming, and uttering such words as were not to be spoken.

¹⁵Wherefore Judas with his company, calling upon the great Lord of the world, who without any rams or engines of war did cast down Jericho in the time of Joshua, gave a fierce assault against the walls, ¹⁶and took the city by the will of God, and made unspeakable slaughters, insomuch that a lake two furlongs broad near adjoining thereunto, being filled full, was seen running with blood.

¹⁷Then departed they from thence seven hundred and fifty furlongs, and came to Characa unto the Jews that are called Tubieni. ¹⁸But as for Timotheus, they found him not in the places: for before he had dispatched any thing, he departed from thence,

having left a very strong garrison in a certain hold. ¹⁹Howbeit Dositheus and Sosipater, who were of Maccabeus' captains, went forth, and slew those that Timotheus had left in the fortress, above ten thousand men.

²⁰And Maccabeus ranged his army by bands, and set them over the bands, and went against Timotheus, who had about him an hundred and twenty thousand men of foot, and two thousand and five hundred horsemen.

²¹Now when Timotheus had knowledge of Judas' coming, he sent the women and children and the other baggage unto a fortress called Carnion: for the town was hard to besiege, and uneasy to come unto, by reason of the straitness of all the places.

²²But when Judas his first band came in sight, the enemies, being smitten with fear and terror through the appearing of him that seeth all things, fled amain, one running this way, another that way, so as that they were often hurt of their own men, and wounded with the points of their own swords. ²³Judas also was very earnest in pursuing them, killing those wicked wretches, of whom he slew about thirty thousand men.

²⁴Moreover Timotheus himself fell into the hands of Dositheus and Sosipater, whom he besought with much craft to let him go with his life, because he had many of the Jews' parents, and the brethren of some of them, who, if they put him to death, should not be regarded. ²⁵So when he had assured them with many words that he would restore them without hurt, according to the agreement, they let him go for the saving of their brethren.

²⁶Then Maccabeus marched forth to Carnion, and to the temple of Atargatis, and there he slew five and twenty thousand persons.

²⁷And after he had put to flight and destroyed them, Judas removed the host toward Ephron, a strong city, wherein Lysias abode, and a great multitude of divers nations, and the strong young men kept the walls, and defended them mightily: wherein also was great provision of engines and darts. ²⁸But when Judas and his company had called upon Almighty God, who with his power breaketh the strength of his enemies, they won the city, and slew twenty and five thousand of them that were within.

²⁹From thence they departed to Scythopolis, which lieth six hundred furlongs from Jerusalem. ³⁰But when the Jews that dwelt there had testified that the Scythopolitans dealt lovingly with them, and entreated them kindly in the time of their adversity; ³¹they gave them thanks, desiring them to be friendly still unto them: and so they came to Jerusalem, the feast of the weeks approaching.

³²And after the feast, called Pentecost, they went forth against Gorgias the governor of Idumea, ³³who came out with three thousand men of foot and four hundred horsemen. ³⁴And it happened that in their fighting together a few of the Jews were slain. ³⁵At which time Dositheus, one of Bacenor's company, who was on horseback, and a strong man, was still upon Gorgias,

φρουράν ἐν τινι τόπῳ, καὶ μάλα ὀχυράν. Δωσίθεος δὲ καὶ ¹⁹Σωσίπατρος τῶν περὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον ἡγεμόνων, ἐξοδεύσαντες ἀπώλεσαν τοὺς ὑπὸ Τιμοθέου καταλειφθέντας ἐν τῷ ὀχυρώματι πλείους τῶν μυρίων ἀνδρῶν.

Ὁ δὲ Μακκαβαῖος διατάξας τὴν ἑαυτοῦ στρατιὰν σπειρηδὸν, ²⁰κατέστησεν αὐτοὺς ἐπὶ τῶν σπείρων, καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν Τιμόθεον ὥρμησεν ἔχοντα περὶ αὐτὸν μυριάδας δώδεκα πεζῶν, ἵππεῖς δὲ χιλίους πρὸς τοῖς πεντακοσίοις.

Τὴν δὲ ἔφοδον μεταλαβὼν Ἰούδα, ὁ Τιμόθεος προεξαπέ- ²¹στεῖλε τὰς γυναῖκας, καὶ τὰ τέκνα, καὶ τὴν ἄλλην ἀποσκευὴν εἰς τὸ λεγόμενον Καρνίον· ἦν γὰρ δυσπολιόρκητον καὶ δυσπρόσιτον τὸ χωρίον διὰ τὴν τῶν πάντων τῶν τόπων στενότητα.

Ἐπιφανείσης δὲ τῆς Ἰούδα σπείρας πρώτης, καὶ γενομένου ²²δέους ἐπὶ τοὺς πολεμίους, φόβου τε ἐκ τῆς τοῦ πάντα ἐφορῶντος ἐπιφανείας γενομένου ἐπ' αὐτοὺς, εἰς φυγὴν ὥρμησαν ἄλλος ἄλλαχῃ φερόμενος, ὥστε πολλάκις ὑπὸ τῶν ἰδίων βλάπτεσθαι, καὶ ταῖς τῶν ξιφῶν ἀκμαῖς ἀναπείρεσθαι. Ἐποιεῖτο δὲ τὸν διωγμὸν εὐτονώτερον Ἰούδας, συγκεντῶν τοὺς ²³ἀλιτηρίους, διέφθειρέ τε εἰς μυριάδας τρεῖς ἀνδρῶν.

Αὐτὸς δὲ ὁ Τιμόθεος ἐμπεσὼν τοῖς περὶ τὸν Δωσίθεον καὶ ²⁴Σωσίπατρον, ἡξίου μετὰ πολλῆς γοητείας ἐξαφεῖναι σῶον αὐτόν· διὰ τὸ πλείονων μὲν γονεῖς, ὧν δὲ ἀδελφοὺς ἔχειν, καὶ τούτους ἀλογηθῆναι συμβήσεται, εἰ ἀποθάνοι. Πιστώσαντος ²⁵δὲ αὐτοῦ διὰ πλείονων τὸν ὀρισμὸν ἀποκαταστήσειν τούτους ἀπημάντους, ἀπέλυσαν αὐτὸν ἕνεκα τῆς τῶν ἀδελφῶν σωτηρίας.

Ἐξελθὼν δὲ ἐπὶ τὸ Καρνίον καὶ τὸ Ἀταργατεῖον, κατέσφαξε ²⁶μυριάδας σωμάτων δύο καὶ πεντακισχιλίους.

Καὶ μετὰ τὴν τούτων τροπὴν καὶ ἀπώλειαν ἐπεστράτευσεν ²⁷Ἰούδας καὶ ἐπὶ Ἐφρών, πόλιν ὀχυράν, ἐν ᾗ κατῴκει Λυσίας, καὶ πάμφυλα πλήθη· νεανίαί δὲ πρὸ τῶν τειχῶν καθεστῶτες ῥωμαλεοὶ ἀπεμάχοντο εὐρώστως, ἐνθάδε ὀργάνων καὶ βελῶν πολλαὶ παραθέσεις ὑπῆρχον. Ἐπικαλεσάμενοι δὲ τὸν ²⁸Δυνάστην τὸν μετὰ κράτους συντρίβοντα τὰς τῶν πολεμιῶν ἀλκὰς, ἔλαβον τὴν πόλιν ὑποχείριον, καὶ κατέστρωσαν τῶν ἑνδόν εἰς μυριάδας δύο καὶ πεντακισχιλίους.

Ἀναζεύξαντες δὲ ἐκεῖθεν, ὥρμησαν ἐπὶ Σκυθῶν πόλιν, ἀπ- ²⁹έχουσαν ἀπὸ Ἱεροσολύμων σταδίους ἑξακοσίους. Ἀπομαρτυ- ³⁰ρησάντων δὲ τῶν ἐκεῖ κατοικούντων Ἰουδαίων, ἦν οἱ Σκυθοπολίται ἔσχον πρὸς αὐτοὺς εὐνοίαν, καὶ ἐν τοῖς τῆς ἀτυχίας καιροῖς ἡμερον ἀπάντησιν ἐποιοῦντο, εὐχαριστήσαντες αὐτοῖς, ³¹καὶ προσπαρακαλέσαντες καὶ εἰς τὰ λοιπὰ πρὸς τὸ γένος εὐμενεῖς εἶναι, παρεγένοντο εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα, τῆς τῶν ἐβδομάδων ἑορτῆς οὔσης ὑπογίου.

Μετὰ δὲ τὴν λεγομένην Πεντηκοστὴν, ὥρμησαν ἐπὶ Γοργίαν ³²τὸν τῆς Ἰδουμαίας στρατηγόν. Ἐξῆλθε δὲ μετὰ πεζῶν τρισχι- ³³λίων, ἵππέων δὲ τετρακοσίων. Καὶ παραταξαμένων συνέβη ³⁴πεσεῖν ὀλίγους τῶν Ἰουδαίων. Δωσίθεος δὲ τις τῶν τοῦ ³⁵Βακῆνορος, ἔφιππος ἀνὴρ καὶ καρτερός, εἶχετο τοῦ Γοργίου, καὶ λαβόμενος τῆς χλαμύδος, ἤγεν αὐτὸν εὐρώστως, καὶ βου-

λόμενος τὸν κατάρατον λαβεῖν ζωγρίαν, τῶν ἱππέων Θρακῶν τινὸς ἐπενεχθέντος αὐτῷ καὶ τὸν ὦμον καθελόντος, διέφυγεν ὁ Γοργίας εἰς Μαρися.

- 36 Τῶν δὲ περὶ τὸν Ἑσδριν ἐπιπλεῖον μαχομένων, καὶ κατὰ κόπων ὄντων, ἐπικαλεσάμενος ὁ Ἰούδας τὸν Κύριον σύμμαχον
37 φανῆναι καὶ προοδηγὸν τοῦ πολέμου, καταρξάμενος τῇ πατρίῳ φωνῇ τὴν μεθ' ὕμνων κραυγὴν, ἀναβοήσας, καὶ ἐνσεύσας ἀπροσδοκῆτως τοῖς περὶ τὸν Γοργίαν, τροπὴν αὐτῶν ἐποίησατο.
38 Ἰούδας δὲ ἀναλαβὼν τὸ στράτευμα, ἦγεν εἰς Ὀδολλάμ πόλιν· τῆς δὲ ἑβδομάδος ἐπιβαλλούσης, κατὰ τὸν ἐθισμὸν ἀγνισθέντες αὐτοὶ τὸ σάββατον διήγαγον.

- 39 Τῇ δὲ ἐχομένη ἦλθον οἱ περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν καθ' ὃν τρόπον τὸ τῆς χρείας ἐγεγόνει, τὰ τῶν προπεπτωκότων σώματα ἀνακομίσασθαι, καὶ μετὰ τῶν συγγενῶν ἀποκαταστήσαι εἰς τοὺς πατρῷους τάφους. Εὗρον δὲ ἐκάστου τῶν τεθνηκότων ὑπὸ τοὺς χιτῶνας ἱερώματα τῶν ἀπὸ Ἰαμνείας εἰδώλων, ἀφ' ὧν ὁ νόμος ἀπείργει τοὺς Ἰουδαίους· τοῖς δὲ πᾶσι σαφὲς ἐγένετο
41 διὰ τήνδε τὴν αἰτίαν τοῦσδε πεπτωκέναι. Πάντες οὖν εὐλογήσαντες τοῦ δικαιοκρίτου Κυρίου τοῦ τὰ κεκρυμμένα φανερὰ
42 ποιοῦντος, εἰς ἱκετείαν ἐτράπησαν, ἀξιώσαντες τὸ γεγονὸς ἀμάρτημα τελείως ἐξαλειφθῆναι· ὁ δὲ γενναῖος Ἰούδας παρεκάλεσε τὸ πλῆθος συντηρεῖν ἑαυτοὺς ἀναμαρτήτους εἶναι, ὑπ' ὧν ἑώρακότας τὰ γεγονότα, διὰ τὴν τῶν προπεπτωκότων ἀμαρτίαν.

- 43 Ποιησάμενός τε κατ' ἀνδραλογίαν κατασκευάσματα εἰς ἀργυρίου δραχμὰς δισχιλίας, ἀπέστειλεν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα προσαγαγεῖν περὶ ἀμαρτίας θυσίαν, πάνυ καλῶς καὶ ἀστείως
44 πράττων, ὑπὲρ ἀναστάσεως διαλογιζόμενος· εἰ γὰρ μὴ τοὺς προπεπτωκότας ἀναστῆναι προσεδόκα, περισσὸν ἂν ἦν καὶ
45 ληρῶδες ὑπὲρ νεκρῶν προσεύχεσθαι· εἴτ' ἐμβλέπων τοῖς μετ' εὐσεβείας κοιμωμένοις κάλλιστον ἀποκείμενον χαριστήριον· ὅσα καὶ εὐσεβῆς ἢ ἐπίνοια· ὅθεν περὶ τῶν τεθνηκότων τὸν ἐξιλασμὸν ἐποίησατο, τῆς ἀμαρτίας ἀπολυθῆναι.

- 13 Τῷ δὲ ἐννάτῳ καὶ τεσσαρακοστῷ καὶ ἑκατοστῷ ἔτει προσέπεσε τοῖς περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν, Ἀντίοχον τὸν Εὐπάτορα παραγενέσθαι
2 σὺν πλῆθεσιν ἐπὶ τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ Λυσίαν τὸν ἐπίτροπον καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν πραγμάτων, ἕκαστον ἔχοντα δύναμιν Ἑλληνικὴν πεζῶν μυριάδας ἑνδεκα, καὶ ἱππεῖς πεντακισχιλίουσ, καὶ ἐλέφαντας εἰκοσιδύο, ἄρματα δὲ δρεπανηφόρα τριακόσια.

- 3 Καὶ Μενέλαος δὲ συνέμιξεν αὐτοῖς, καὶ παρεκάλει μετὰ πολλῆς εἰρωνείας τὸν Ἀντίοχον, οὐκ ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ τῆς πατρίδος,
4 οἰόμενος δὲ ἐπὶ τῆς ἀρχῆς κατασταθῆσεσθαι. Ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς τῶν βασιλέων ἐξήγγειρε τὸν θυμὸν τοῦ Ἀντιόχου ἐπὶ τὸν ἀλιτήριον, καὶ Λυσίου ὑποδείξαντος τοῦτον αἴτιον εἶναι πάντων τῶν κακῶν, προσέταξεν, ὥς ἔθος ἐστὶν ἐν τῷ τόπῳ, προσαπολέσαι ἀγαγόντας αὐτὸν εἰς Βέροιαν.

- 5 Ἔστι δὲ ἐν τῷ τόπῳ πύργος πεντήκοντα πηχῶν πλήρης σποδοῦ· οὗτος δὲ ὄργανον εἶχε περιφερὲς πάντοθεν ἀπόκρημνον

and taking hold of his coat drew him by force; and when he would have taken that cursed man alive, a horseman of Thracia coming upon him smote off his shoulder, so that Gorgias fled unto Marisa.

³⁶ Now when they that were with Gorgias had fought long, and were weary, Judas called upon the Lord, that he would shew himself to be their helper and leader of the battle. ³⁷ And with that he began in his own language, and sung psalms with a loud voice, and rushing unawares upon Gorgias' men, he put them to flight. ³⁸ So Judas gathered his host, and came into the city of Odollam. And when the seventh day came, they purified themselves, as the custom was, and kept the sabbath in the same place.

³⁹ And upon the day following, as the use had been, Judas and his company came to take up the bodies of them that were slain, and to bury them with their kinsmen in their fathers' graves. ⁴⁰ Now under the coats of every one that was slain they found things consecrated to the idols of the Jamnites, which is forbidden the Jews by the law. Then every man saw that this was the cause wherefore they were slain. ⁴¹ All men therefore praising the Lord, the righteous Judge, who had opened the things that were hid, ⁴² betook themselves unto prayer, and besought him that the sin committed might wholly be put out of remembrance. Besides, that noble Judas exhorted the people to keep themselves from sin, forasmuch as they saw before their eyes the things that came to pass for the sins of those that were slain.

⁴³ And when he had made a gathering throughout the company to the sum of two thousand drachms of silver, he sent it to Jerusalem to offer a sin offering, doing therein very well and honestly, in that he was mindful of the resurrection: ⁴⁴ for if he had not hoped that they that were slain should have risen again, it had been superfluous and vain to pray for the dead. ⁴⁵ And also in that he perceived that there was great favour laid up for those that died godly, it was an holy and good thought. Whereupon he made a reconciliation for the dead, that they might be delivered from sin.

In the hundred forty and ninth year it was told Judas, that Antiochus Eupator was coming with a great power into Judea, and with him Lysias his protector, and ruler of his affairs, having either of them a Grecian power of footmen, an hundred and ten thousand, and horsemen five thousand and three hundred, and elephants two and twenty, and three hundred chariots armed with hooks.

³ Menelaus also joined himself with them, and with great dissimulation encouraged Antiochus, not for the safeguard of the country, but because he thought to have been made governor. ⁴ But the King of kings moved Antiochus' mind against this wicked wretch, and Lysias informed the king that this man was the cause of all mischief, so that the king commanded to bring him unto Berea, and to put him to death, as the manner is in that place.

⁵ Now there was in that place a tower of fifty cubits high, full of ashes, and it had a round instrument, which on every side

hanged down into the ashes. ⁶And whosoever was condemned of sacrilege, or had committed any other grievous crime, there did all men thrust him unto death. ⁷Such a death it happened that wicked man to die, not having so much as burial in the earth; and that most justly: ⁸for inasmuch as he had committed many sins about the altar, whose fire and ashes were holy, he received his death in ashes.

⁹Now the king came with a barbarous and haughty mind to do far worse to the Jews, than had been done in his father's time. ¹⁰Which things when Judas perceived, he commanded the multitude to call upon the Lord night and day, that if ever at any other time, he would now also help them, being at the point to be put from their law, from their country, and from the holy temple: ¹¹and that he would not suffer the people, that had even now been but a little refreshed, to be in subjection to the blasphemous nations.

¹²So when they had all done this together, and besought the merciful Lord with weeping and fasting, and lying flat upon the ground three days long, Judas, having exhorted them, commanded they should be in a readiness.

¹³And Judas, being apart with the elders, determined, before the king's host should enter into Judea, and get the city, to go forth and try the matter *in fight* by the help of the Lord.

¹⁴So when he had committed *all* to the Creator of the world, and exhorted his soldiers to fight manfully, even unto death, for the laws, the temple, the city, the country, and the commonwealth, he camped by Modin: ¹⁵and having given the watchword to them that were about him, Victory is of God; with the most valiant and choice young men he went in into the king's tent by night, and slew in the camp about four thousand men, and the chiefest of the elephants, with all that were upon him. ¹⁶And at last they filled the camp with fear and tumult, and departed with good success. ¹⁷This was done in the break of the day, because the protection of the Lord did help him.

¹⁸Now when the king had taken a taste of the manliness of the Jews, he went about to take the holds by policy, ¹⁹and marched toward Bethsura, which was a strong hold of the Jews: but he was put to flight, failed, and lost of his men: ²⁰for Judas had conveyed unto them that were in it such things as were necessary.

²¹But Rhodocus, who was in the Jews' host, disclosed the secrets to the enemies; therefore he was sought out, and when they had gotten him, they put him in prison.

²²The king treated with them in Bethsura the second time, gave his hand, took their's, departed, fought with Judas, was overcome: ²³heard that Philip, who was left over the affairs in Antioch, was desperately bent, confounded, intreated the Jews, submitted himself, and sware to all equal conditions, agreed with them, and offered sacrifice, honoured the temple, and dealt kindly with the place, ²⁴and accepted well of Maccabeus, made him principal governor from Ptolemais unto the Gerrerhenians; ²⁵came to Ptolemais: the people there were

εἰς τὴν σποδόν. Ἐνταῦθα τὸν ἱεροσουλίας ἔνοχον ὄντα, ἥ καὶ 6
τινων ἄλλων κακῶν ὑπεροχὴν πεποιημένον, ἅπαντες προσωθοῦ-
σιν εἰς ὄλεθρον. Τοιούτῳ μὲν τὸν παράνομον συνέβη θανεῖν, 7
μηδὲ τῆς γῆς τυχόντα Μενέλαον· πάνυ δικαίως. Ἐπεὶ γὰρ 8
συντελέσατο πολλὰ περὶ τὸν βωμὸν ἁμαρτήματα, οὗ τὸ πῦρ
ἀγνὸν ἦν καὶ ἡ σποδὸς, ἐν σποδῷ τὸν θάνατον ἐκομισατο.

Τοῖς δὲ φρονήμασιν ὁ βασιλεὺς βεβαρβαρωμένος ἤρχετο, 9
τὰ χεῖριστα τῶν ἐπὶ τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ γεγονότων ἐνδειξόμενος
τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις. Μεταλαβὼν δὲ Ἰούδας ταῦτα, παρήγγειλε τῷ 10
πλήθει δι' ἡμέρας καὶ νυκτὸς ἐπικαλεῖσθαι τὸν Κύριον, εἴποτε
ἄλλοτε, καὶ νῦν ἐπιβοηθεῖν τοῖς τοῦ νόμου καὶ πατρίδος καὶ
ἱεροῦ ἁγίου στερεῖσθαι μέλλουσι, καὶ τὸν ἄρτι βραχέως ἀνε- 11
ψυχότα λαὸν μὴ ἑᾶσαι τοῖς δυσφήμοις ἔθνεσιν ὑποχειρίους
γενέσθαι.

Πάντων δὲ τὸ αὐτὸ ποιησάντων ὁμοῦ καὶ καταξισάντων 12
τὸν ἐλεήμονα Κύριον μετὰ κλαυθμοῦ καὶ νηστειῶν καὶ προπτώ-
σεως ἐφ' ἡμέρας τρεῖς ἀδιαλείπτως, παρακάλεσας αὐτοὺς ὁ
Ἰούδας ἐκέλευσε παραγίνεσθαι.

Καθ' ἑαυτὸν δὲ σὺν τοῖς πρεσβυτέροις γινόμενος, ἐβουλεύ- 13
σατο πρὶν εἰσβαλεῖν τοῦ βασιλέως τὸ στράτευμα εἰς τὴν
Ἰουδαίαν, καὶ γενέσθαι τῆς πόλεως ἐγκρατεῖς, ἐξελθόντας
κρῖναι τὰ πράγματα τῇ τοῦ Κυρίου βοηθείᾳ.

Δοὺς δὲ τὴν ἐπιτροπὴν τῷ κτίστῃ τοῦ κόσμου, παρακάλεσας 14
τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ γενναίως ἀγωνίσασθαι μέχρι θανάτου περὶ νόμων,
περὶ ἱεροῦ, πόλεως, πατρίδος, πολιτείας, ἐποίησατο περὶ Μωδεὶν
τὴν στρατοπεδεῖαν. Δοὺς δὲ τοῖς περὶ αὐτὸν σύνθημα Θεοῦ 15
νίκης, μετὰ νεανίσκων ἀρίστων κεκριμένων ἐπιβαλὼν νύκτωρ
ἐπὶ τὴν βασιλικὴν αὐλὴν, ἐν τῇ παρεμβολῇ ἀνείλεν εἰς ἄνδρας
τετρακισχιλίους, καὶ τὸν πρωτεύοντα τῶν ἐλεφάντων σὺν τῷ κατ'
οἰκίαν ὄχλῳ συνέθηκε, καὶ τὸ τέλος τὴν παρεμβολὴν δέους 16
καὶ ταραχῆς ἐπλήρωσαν, καὶ ἐξέλυσαν εὐήμεροῦντες. Ὑπο- 17
φαιούσης δὲ ἤδη τῆς ἡμέρας τοῦτ' ἐγεγόνει, διὰ τὴν ἐπαρή-
γουςαν αὐτῷ τοῦ Κυρίου σκέπην.

Ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς εἰληφῶς γεῦσιν τῆς τῶν Ἰουδαίων εὐτολμίας, 18
κατεπείρασε διὰ μεθόδων τοὺς τόπους. Καὶ ἐπὶ Βαιθσοῦρα 19
φρούριον ὄχυρόν τῶν Ἰουδαίων προσῆγεν· καὶ ἐτροποῦτο,
προσέκρουεν, ἡλαττονοῦτο. Τοῖς δὲ ἔνδον Ἰούδας τὰ δέοντα 20
εἰσέπεμψε.

Προσῆγγειλε δὲ τὰ μυστήρια τοῖς πολεμίοις Ῥόδοκος ἐκ 21
τῆς Ἰουδαϊκῆς τάξεως· ἀνεζητήθη δὲ, καὶ κατελήφθη, καὶ
κατεκλείσθη.

Ἐδευτερολόγησεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῖς ἐν Βαιθσοῦρα δεξιᾷ 22
ἔδωκεν, ἔλαβεν, ἀπήει, προσέβαλε τοῖς περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν, ἥτινων
ἐγένετο, μετέλαβεν ἀπονενοῆσθαι τὸν Φίλιππον ἐν Ἀντιοχείᾳ 23
τὸν ἀπολελειμμένον ἐπὶ τῶν πραγμάτων, συνεχύθη· τοὺς Ἰου-
δαίους παρεκάλεσεν, ὑπετάγη, καὶ ὤμοσεν ἐπὶ πᾶσι τοῖς δικαίοις·
συνελύθη καὶ θυσίαν προσήγαγεν, ἐτίμησε τὸν νεῶν, καὶ τὸν
τόπον ἐφιλανθρώπησε, καὶ τὸν Μακκαβαῖον ἀπεδέξατο· κατέ- 24
λιπε στρατηγὸν ἀπὸ Πτολεμαίδος ἕως τῶν Γερρηνῶν ἡγεμονίδην,
ἦλθεν εἰς Πτολεμαίδα· ἐδυσφόρουν περὶ τῶν συνθηκῶν οἱ 25

Πτολεμαεῖς, ἐδείναζον γὰρ ὑπὲρ ὧν ἠθέλησαν ἀθετεῖν τὰς διαστάσεις.

26 Προσῆλθεν ἐπὶ τὸ βῆμα Λυσίας, ἀπελογήσατο ἐνδεχομένως, συνέπεισε, κατεπράυνεν, εὐμενεῖς ἐποίησεν, ἀνέξεν εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν· οὕτω τὰ τοῦ βασιλέως τῆς ἐφόδου καὶ τῆς ἀναγωγῆς ἐχώρησε.

14 Μετὰ δὲ τριετὴ χρόνον προσέπεσε τοῖς περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν, Δημήτριον τὸν τοῦ Σελεύκου διὰ τοῦ κατὰ Τρίπολιν λιμένος εἰσπλεύσαντα μετὰ πλήθους ἰσχυροῦ καὶ στόλου, κεκρατηκέναι τῆς χώρας, ἐπανελόμενον Ἀντίοχον καὶ τὸν τούτου ἐπίτροπον Λυσίαν.

3 Ἀλκιμος δὲ τις προγενόμενος ἀρχιερεὺς, ἐκουσίως δὲ μεμολυμμένος ἐν τοῖς τῆς ἐπιμιξίας χρόνοις, συννοήσας ὅτι καθ' ὄντιναοῦν τρόπον οὐκ ἔστιν αὐτῷ σωτηρία, οὐδὲ πρὸς ἅγιον

4 θυσιαστήριον ἔτι πρόσδοδος, ἦκε πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα Δημήτριον πρῶτῳ καὶ πεντηκοστῷ καὶ ἑκατοστῷ ἔτει, προσάγων αὐτῷ στέφανον χρυσοῦν καὶ φοίνικα, πρὸς δὲ τούτοις τῶν νομιζομένων θαλλῶν τοῦ ἱεροῦ· καὶ τὴν ἡμέραν ἐκείνην ἡσυχίαν ἔσχε.

5 Καιρὸν δὲ λαβὼν τῆς ἰδίας ἀνοίας συνεργὸν, προσκληθεὶς εἰς συνέδριον ὑπὸ τοῦ Δημητρίου, καὶ ἐπερωτηθεὶς ἐν τίνι διαθέσει καὶ βουλῇ καθεστήκασιν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, πρὸς ταῦτα ἔφη, οἱ λεγόμενοι τῶν Ἰουδαίων Ἀσιδαῖοι, ὧν ἀφηγεῖται Ἰούδας ὁ Μακκαβαῖος, πολεμοτροφοῦσι καὶ στασιάζουσιν, οὐκ ἔωντες τὴν βασιλείαν εὐσταθείας τυχεῖν.

7 Ὅθεν ἀφελόμενος τὴν προγονικὴν δόξαν, λέγω δὴ τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην, δεῦρο νῦν ἐλήλυθα. Πρῶτον μὲν ὑπὲρ τῶν ἀνηκόντων τῷ βασιλεῖ γνησίως φρονῶν, δεύτερον δὲ καὶ τῶν ἰδίων πολιτῶν στοχαζόμενος· τῇ μὲν γὰρ τῶν προειρημένων ἀλογιστία τὸ σύμπαν ἡμῶν γένος οὐ μικρῶς ἀκληρεῖ.

9 Ἐκαστα δὲ τούτων ἐπεγνωκὼς σὺ βασιλεῦ, καὶ τῆς χώρας καὶ τοῦ περιϋσταμένου γένους ἡμῶν προνοήθητι, καθ' ἣν ἔχεις πρὸς ἅπαντας εὐαπάντητον φιланθρωπίαν. Ἀχρι γὰρ Ἰούδας 10 περιέστιν, ἀδύνατον εἰρήνης τυχεῖν τὰ πράγματα. Τοιούτων δὲ ῥηθέντων ὑπὸ τούτου, θάττον οἱ λοιποὶ φίλοι δυσμενῶς ἔχοντες τὰ πρὸς τὸν Ἰούδαν προσεπύρωσαν τὸν Δημήτριον.

12 Προσκαλεσάμενος δὲ εὐθέως Νικάνορα τὸν γενόμενον ἐλεφαντάρχην, καὶ στρατηγὸν ἀναδείξας τῆς Ἰουδαίας, ἐξάπε- 13 στείλει, δούς ἐντολὰς, αὐτὸν μὲν τὸν Ἰούδαν ἐπανελέσθαι, τοὺς δὲ σὺν αὐτῷ σκορπίσαι, καταστήσαι δὲ Ἀλκιμον ἀρχιερέα τοῦ 14 μεγίστου ἱεροῦ. Τὰ δὲ ἐκ τῆς Ἰουδαίας πεφυγαδευκότες τὸν Ἰούδαν ἔβην συνέμισγον ἀγελῆδὸν τῷ Νικάνори, τὰς τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἀτυχίας καὶ συμφορὰς, ἰδίας εὐημερίας δοκοῦντες ἔσεσθαι.

15 Ἀκούσαντες δὲ τὴν τοῦ Νικάνορος ἔφοδον καὶ τὴν ἐπίθεσιν τῶν ἐθνῶν, καταπασάμενοι γῆν ἐλιτάνευον τὸν ἄχρι αἰῶνος συστήσαντα τὸν ἑαυτοῦ λαὸν, αἰεὶ δὲ μετ' ἐπιφανείας ἀντιλαμ- 16 βανόμενον τῆς ἑαυτοῦ μερίδος. Προστάξαντος δὲ τοῦ ἡγουμένου, ἐκείθεν εὐθέως ἀνέξεν, καὶ συμμίσγουσιν αὐτοῖς ἐπὶ κώμην Δεσσαοῦ.

17 Σίμων δὲ ὁ ἀδελφὸς Ἰούδα συμβεβληκῶς ἦν τῷ Νικάνори, βραχέως δὲ διὰ τὴν αἰφνίδιον τῶν ἀντιπάλων ἀφασίαν

grieved for the covenants; for they stormed, because they would make their covenants void.

²⁶ Lysias went up to the judgment seat, said as much as could be in defence of the cause, persuaded, pacified, made them well affected, returned to Antioch. Thus it went touching the king's coming and departing.

After three years was Judas informed, that Demetrius the son of Seleucus, having entered by the haven of Tripolis with a great power and navy, ² had taken the country, and killed Antiochus, and Lysias his protector.

³ Now one Alcimus, who had been high priest, and had defiled himself wilfully in the times of their mingling with the Gentiles, seeing that by no means he could save himself, nor have any more access to the holy altar, ⁴ came to king Demetrius in the hundred and one and fiftieth year, presenting unto him a crown of gold, and a palm, and also of the boughs which were used solemnly in the temple: and so that day he held his peace.

⁵ Howbeit, having gotten opportunity to further his foolish enterprise, and being called into council by Demetrius, and asked how the Jews stood affected, and what they intended, he answered thereunto: ⁶ Those of the Jews that be called Assideans, whose captain is Judas Maccabeus, nourish war, and are seditious, and will not let the realm be in peace.

⁷ Therefore I, being deprived of mine ancestors' honour, I mean the high priesthood, am now come hither: ⁸ first, verily for the unfeigned care I have of things pertaining to the king; and secondly, even for that I intend the good of mine own citizens: for all our nation is in no small misery through the unadvised dealing of them aforesaid.

⁹ Wherefore, O king, seeing thou knowest all these things, be careful for the country, and our nation, which is pressed on every side, according to the clemency that thou readily shewest unto all. ¹⁰ For as long as Judas liveth, it is not possible that the state should be quiet. ¹¹ This was no sooner spoken of him, but others of the king's friends, being maliciously set against Judas, did more incense Demetrius.

¹² And forthwith calling Nicanor, who had been master of the elephants, and making him governor over Judea, he sent him forth, ¹³ commanding him to slay Judas, and to scatter them that were with him, and to make Alcimus high priest of the great temple. ¹⁴ Then the heathen, that had fled out of Judea from Judas, came to Nicanor by flocks, thinking the harm and calamities of the Jews to be their welfare.

¹⁵ Now when the Jews heard of Nicanor's coming, and that the heathen were up against them, they cast earth upon their heads, and made supplication to him that had established his people for ever, and who always helpeth his portion with manifestation of his presence. ¹⁶ So at the commandment of the captain they removed straightways from thence, and came near unto them at the town of Dessau.

¹⁷ Now Simon, Judas' brother, had joined battle with Nicanor, but was somewhat discomfited through the sudden silence of his

enemies. ¹⁸ Nevertheless Nicanor, hearing of the manliness of them that were with Judas, and the courageousness that they had to fight for their country, durst not try the matter by the sword. ¹⁹ Wherefore he sent Posidonius, and Theodotus, and Mattathias, to make peace.

²⁰ So when they had taken long advisement thereupon, and the captain had made the multitude acquainted therewith, and it appeared that they were all of one mind, they consented to the covenants, ²¹ and appointed a day to meet in together by themselves: and when the day came, and stools were set for either of them, ²² Judas placed armed men ready in convenient places, lest some treachery should be suddenly practised by the enemies: so they made a peaceable conference.

²³ Now Nicanor abode in Jerusalem, and did no hurt, but sent away the people that came flocking unto him. ²⁴ And he would not willingly have Judas out of his sight: for he loved the man from his heart. ²⁵ He prayed him also to take a wife, and to beget children: so he married, was quiet, and took part of this life.

²⁶ But Alcimus, perceiving the love that was betwixt them, and considering the covenants that were made, came to Demetrius, and told him that Nicanor was not well affected toward the state: for that he had ordained Judas, a traitor to his realm, to be the king's successor. ²⁷ Then the king being in a rage, and provoked with the accusations of the most wicked man, wrote to Nicanor, signifying that he was much displeased with the covenants, and commanding him that he should send Maccabeus prisoner in all haste unto Antioch.

²⁸ When this came to Nicanor's hearing, he was much confounded in himself, and took it grievously that he should make void the articles which were agreed upon, the man being in no fault. ²⁹ But because there was no dealing against the king, he watched his time to accomplish this thing by policy.

³⁰ Notwithstanding, when Maccabeus saw that Nicanor began to be churlish unto him, and that he entreated him more roughly than he was wont, perceiving that such sour behaviour came not of good, he gathered together not a few of his men, and withdrew himself from Nicanor. ³¹ But the other, knowing that he was notably prevented by Judas' policy, came into the great and holy temple, and commanded the priests, that were offering their usual sacrifices, to deliver him the man. ³² And when they swore that they could not tell where the man was whom he sought, ³³ he stretched out his right hand toward the temple, and made an oath in this manner: If ye will not deliver me Judas as a prisoner, I will lay this temple of God even with the ground, and I will break down the altar, and erect a notable temple unto Bacchus.

³⁴ After these words, he departed. Then the priests lifted up their hands toward heaven, and besought him that was ever a defender of their nation, saying in this manner: ³⁵ Thou, O Lord of all things, who hast need of nothing, wast pleased that the temple of thine habitation should be among us: ³⁶ therefore now, O holy Lord of all holiness,

ἐπταικώς. Ὅμως δὲ ἀκούων ὁ Νικάνωρ ἦν εἶχον οἱ περὶ τὸν 18
Ἰούδαν ἀνδραγαθίαν, καὶ ἐν τοῖς ὑπὲρ τῆς πατρίδος ἀγῶσιν
εὐψυχίαν, ἐπευλαβεῖτο τὴν κρίσιν δι' αἱμάτων ποιήσασθαι·
Διόπερ ἔπεμψε Ποσιδώνιον καὶ Θεόδοτον καὶ Ματθαθίαν, δοῦναι 19
καὶ λαβεῖν δεξιάς.

Πλείονος δὲ γενομένης περὶ τούτων ἐπισκέψεως, καὶ τοῦ 20
ἡγεμόνος τοῖς πλήθεσιν ἀνακοινωσαμένου, καὶ φανείσης ὁμο-
ψήφου γνώμης, ἐπένευσαν ταῖς συνθήκαις. Ἐτάξαντο δὲ 21
ἡμέραν ἐν ᾗ κατ' ἰδίαν ἤξουσιν εἰς τὸ αὐτό· καὶ προῆλθε, καὶ
παρ' ἐκάστου διαφόρους ἔθεσαν δίφρους. Διέταξεν Ἰούδας 22
ἐνόπλους ἐτοίμους ἐν τοῖς ἐπικαίροις τόποις, μήποτε ἐκ τῶν
πολεμίων αἰφνιδίως κακουργία γένηται· τὴν ἀρμόζουσαν ἐποι-
ήσαντο κοινολογίαν.

Διέτριβεν δὲ ὁ Νικάνωρ ἐν Ἱεροσολύμοις, καὶ ἔπραττεν 23
οὐθὲν ἀτοπον· τοὺς δὲ συναχθέντας ἀγελαίους ὄχλους ἀπέλυσε.
Καὶ εἶχε τὸν Ἰούδαν διαπαντὸς ἐν προσώπῳ, ψυχικῶς τῷ ἀνδρὶ 24
προσεκέκλιτο. Παρεκάλεσεν αὐτὸν γῆμαι καὶ παιδοποιήσα- 25
σθαι· ἐγάμησεν, εὐστάθησεν, ἐκοινώνησε βίου.

Ὁ δὲ Ἀλκιμος συνιδὼν τὴν πρὸς ἀλλήλους εὐνοίαν καὶ τὰς 26
γενομένας συνθήκας, ἀναλαβὼν, ἦκε πρὸς τὸν Δημήτριον, καὶ
ἔλεγε τὸν Νικάνωρα ἀλλότρια φρονεῖν τῶν πραγμάτων· τὸν
γὰρ ἐπίβουλον τῆς βασιλείας Ἰούδαν διάδοχον ἀναδέδειχεν
ἑαυτοῦ. Ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς ἔκθυμος γενόμενος, καὶ ταῖς τοῦ 27
παμπονήρου ἐρεθισθεὶς διαβολαῖς, ἔγραψε Νικάνωρι φάσκων,
ὑπὲρ μὲν τῶν συνθηκῶν βαρέως φέρειν, κελεύων δὲ τὸν Μακ-
καβαῖον δέσμιον ἐξαποστέλλειν ταχέως εἰς Ἀντιόχειαν.

Προσπεσόντων δὲ τούτων τῷ Νικάνωρι, συνεκέχυτο καὶ 28
δυσφόρως ἔφερεν, εἰ τὰ διεσταλμένα ἀθετήσῃ μηδὲν τ' ἀνδρὸς
ἡδικοκῶτος. Ἐπεὶ δὲ τῷ βασιλεῖ ἀντιπράττειν οὐκ ἦν, εὐκαιρον 29
ἐτήρει στρατηγῆματι τοῦτ' ἐπιτελέσαι.

Ὁ δὲ Μακκαβαῖος αὐστηρότερον διεξάγοντα συνιδὼν τὸν 30
Νικάνωρα πρὸς αὐτὸν, καὶ τὴν εἰθισμένην ἀπάντησιν ἀγριωτέ-
ραν ἐσχηκότα, νοήσας οὐκ ἀπὸ τοῦ βελτίστου τὴν αὐστηρίαν
εἶναι, συστρέψας οὐκ ὀλίγους τῶν περὶ ἑαυτὸν, συνεκρύπτετο
τὸν Νικάνωρα. Συγγνοὺς δὲ ὁ ἕτερος ὅτι γενναίως ὑπὸ τοῦ 31
ἀνδρὸς ἐστρατήγηται, παραγενόμενος ἐπὶ τὸ μέγιστον καὶ
ἅγιον ἱερὸν, τῶν ἱερέων τὰς καθηκούσας θυσίας προσαγόντων,
ἐκέλευσε παραδιδόναι τὸν ἄνδρα. Τῶν δὲ μεθ' ὅρκων φασκόν- 32
των μὴ γινώσκειν ποῦ ποτ' ἐστὶν ὁ ζητούμενος, προτείνας 33
τὴν δεξιὰν εἰς τὸν νεῶν, ταῦτα ὥμοσεν, ἐὰν μὴ δέσμιόν μοι
τὸν Ἰούδαν παραδῶτε, τόνδε τοῦ Θεοῦ σηκὸν εἰς πεδίον ποιήσω,
καὶ τὸ θυσιαστήριον κατασκάψω, καὶ ἱερὸν ἐνταῦθα τῷ Διονύσῳ
ἐπιφανὲς ἀναστήσω.

Τοσαῦτα δὲ εἰπὼν ἀπῆλθεν· οἱ δὲ ἱερεῖς προτείναντες τὰς 34
χεῖρας εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν, ἐπεκαλοῦντο τὸν διαπαντὸς ὑπέρμαχον
τοῦ ἔθνους ἡμῶν, ταῦτα λέγοντες, σὺ, Κύριε, τῶν ὅλων ἀπροσ- 35
δεῆς ὑπάρχων, εὐδόκησας ναὸν τῆς σῆς κατασκηνώσεως ἐν
ἡμῖν γενέσθαι. Καὶ νῦν, ἅγιε παντὸς ἀγιασμοῦ. Κύριε, 36

διατήρησον εἰς αἰῶνα ἀμίαντον τόνδε τὸν προσφάτως κεκαθαρισ-
μένον οἶκον.

37 Ῥαζῖς δέ τις τῶν ἀπὸ Ἱεροσολύμων πρεσβυτέρων, ἐμνηνύθη
τῷ Νικάνורי, ἀνὴρ φιλοπολίτης καὶ σφόδρα καλῶς ἀκούων,
καὶ κατὰ τὴν εὐνοίαν πατὴρ τῶν Ἰουδαίων προσαγορευόμενος.

38 Ἦν γὰρ ἐν τοῖς ἔμπροσθεν χρόνοις τῆς ἀμιξίας κρίσιν εἰσηνε-
νεγμένος Ἰουδαϊσμοῦ, καὶ σῶμα καὶ ψυχὴν ὑπὲρ τοῦ Ἰου-
δαϊσμοῦ παραβεβλημένος μετὰ πάσης ἐκτενίας.

39 Βουλόμενος δὲ Νικάνωρ πρόδηλον ποιῆσαι ἣν εἶχε πρὸς
τοὺς Ἰουδαίους δυσμένειαν, ἀπέστειλε στρατιώτας ὑπὲρ τοὺς

40 πεντακοσίους συλλαβεῖν αὐτόν. Ἔδοξε γὰρ, ἐκείνῳ συλλα-

41 βῶν, τούτοις ἐργάσασθαι συμφοράν, τῶν δὲ πληθῶν μελλόν-
των τὸν πύργον καταλαβέσθαι, καὶ τὴν αὐλαίαν θύραν βιαζο-
μένων, καὶ κελευόντων πῦρ προσάγειν καὶ τὰς θύρας ὑφάπτειν,

42 περικατάληπτος γενόμενος ὑπέθηκεν ἑαυτῷ ξίφος, εὐγενῶς
θέλων ἀποθανεῖν, ἥπερ τοῖς ἀλιτηρίοις ὑποχέριος γενέσθαι, καὶ

43 τῆς ἰδίας εὐγενείας ἀναξίως ὑβρισθῆναι. Τῇ δὲ πληγῇ μὴ
κατευθικτήσας διὰ τὴν τοῦ ἀγῶνος σπουδὴν, καὶ τῶν ὄχλων
εἴσω τῶν θυρωμάτων εἰσβαλόντων, ἀναδραμὼν γενναίως ἐπὶ τὸ

44 τείχος, κατεκρήμνισεν ἑαυτὸν ἀνδρείως εἰς τοὺς ὄχλους. Τῶν
δὲ ταχέως ἀναποδισάντων, γενομένου διαστήματος ἦλθε κατὰ
μέσον τὸν κενεῶνα.

45 Ἔτι δὲ ἔμπρους ὑπάρχων καὶ πεπυρωμένος τοῖς θυμοῖς,
ἐξαναστὰς φερομένων κρουνηδὸν τῶν αἱμάτων, καὶ δυσχερῶν
ὄντων τῶν τραυμάτων, δρόμῳ τοὺς ὄχλους διελθὼν, καὶ στὰς

46 ἐπὶ τινος πέτρας ἀπορρώγαδος, παντελῶς ἔξαιμος ἤδη γενό-
μενος, προβαλὼν τὰ ἔντερα, καὶ λαβὼν ἐκατέρας ταῖς χερσὶν,
ἐνέσεισε τοῖς ὄχλοις· καὶ ἐπικαλεσάμενος τὸν δεσπόζοντα τῆς
ζωῆς καὶ τοῦ πνεύματος, ταῦτα αὐτῷ πάλιν ἀποδοῦναι, τόνδε
τὸν τρόπον μετήλλαξεν.

15 Ὁ δὲ Νικάνωρ μεταλαβὼν τοὺς περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν ὄντας ἐν
τοῖς κατὰ Σαμάρειαν τόποις, ἐβουλεύσατο τῇ τῆς καταπαύσεως
ἡμέρᾳ μετὰ πάσης ἀσφαλείας αὐτοῖς ἐπιβαλεῖν.

2 Τῶν δὲ κατ' ἀνάγκην συνεπομένων αὐτῷ Ἰουδαίων, λεγόντων,
μηδამῶς οὕτως ἀγρίως καὶ βαρβάρως ἀπολέσης, δόξαν δὲ ἀπο-
μέρισον τῇ προτετιμημένῃ ὑπὸ τοῦ πάντα ἐθωρῶντος μεθ'
ἀγιότητος ἡμέρα.

3 Ὁ δὲ τρισαλιτήριος ἐπηρώτησεν, εἰ ἔστιν ἐν οὐρανῷ δυνά-

4 στης ὁ προστεταχὼς ἄγειν τὴν τῶν σαββάτων ἡμέραν; Τῶν
δὲ ἀποφνηαμένων, ἔστιν ὁ Κύριος ζῶν αὐτὸς ἐν οὐρανῷ δυνάστης,

5 ὁ κελεύσας ἀσκεῖν τὴν ἐβδομάδα. Ὁ δὲ ἕτερος, καὶ γὰρ φησι,
δυνάστης ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ὁ προστάσων αἶρειν ὅπλα, καὶ τὰς
βασιλικὰς χρείας ἐπιτελεῖν· ὅμως οὐ κατέσχευ ἐπιτελέσαι τὸ

6 σχέτλιον αὐτοῦ βούλημα. Καὶ ὁ μὲν Νικάνωρ μετὰ πάσης
ἀλαζονείας ὑψαυχενῶν, διεγνώκει κοινὸν τῶν περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν
συστήσασθαι τρόπαιον.

7 Ὁ δὲ Μακκαβαῖος ἦν ἀδιαλείπτως πεποιθὼς μετὰ πάσης

8 ἐλπίδος ἀντιλήψεως τεύεσθαι παρὰ τοῦ Κυρίου. Καὶ παρε-
κάλει τοὺς σὺν αὐτῷ μὴ δειλιάειν τὴν τῶν ἔθνων ἔφοδον, ἔχοντας
δὲ κατὰ νοῦν τὰ προγεγονότα αὐτοῖς ἀπ' οὐρανοῦ βοηθήματα,
καὶ τανῦν προσδοκᾶν τὴν παρὰ τοῦ παντοκράτορος ἐσομένην

keep this house ever undefiled, which lately
was cleansed, and stop every unrighteous
mouth.

³⁷ Now was there accused unto Nicanor
one Razis, one of the elders of Jerusalem, a
lover of his countrymen, and a man of very
good report, who for his kindness was called
a father of the Jews. ³⁸ For in the former
times, when they mingled not themselves
with the Gentiles, he had been accused of
Judaism, and did boldly jeopard his body
and life with all vehemency for the religion
of the Jews.

³⁹ So Nicanor, willing to declare the hate
that he bare unto the Jews, sent above five
hundred men of war to take him: ⁴⁰ for he
thought by taking him to do the Jews much
hurt. ⁴¹ Now when the multitude would have
taken the tower, and violently broken into
the outer door, and bade that fire should be
brought to burn it, he being ready to be
taken on every side fell upon his sword;
⁴² choosing rather to die manfully, than to
come into the hands of the wicked, to be
abused otherwise than beseemed his noble
birth: ⁴³ but missing his stroke through
haste, the multitude also rushing within
the doors, he ran boldly up to the wall,
and cast himself down manfully among the
thickest of them. ⁴⁴ But they quickly giving
back, and a space being made, he fell down
into the midst of the void place.

⁴⁵ Nevertheless, while there was yet breath
within him, being inflamed with anger, he
rose up; and though his blood gushed out
like spouts of water, and his wounds were
grievous, yet he ran through the midst of
the throng; and standing upon a steep
rock, ⁴⁶ when as his blood was now quite
gone, he plucked out his bowels, and taking
them in both his hands, he cast them
upon the throng, and calling upon the
Lord of life and spirit to restore him those
again, he thus died.

But Nicanor, hearing that Judas and his
company were in the strong places about
Samaria, resolved without any danger to set
upon them on the sabbath day.

² Nevertheless the Jews that were com-
pelled to go with him said, O destroy not
so cruelly and barbarously, but give honour
to that day, which he, that seeth all things,
hath honoured with holiness above *other*
days.

³ Then the most ungracious wretch de-
manded, if there were a Mighty one in hea-
ven, that had commanded the sabbath day
to be kept. ⁴ And when they said, There is
in heaven a living Lord, and mighty, who
commanded the seventh day to be kept:
⁵ then said the other, And I also am mighty
upon earth, and I command to take arms,
and to do the king's business. Yet he ob-
tained not to have his wicked will done.
⁶ So Nicanor in exceeding pride and haugh-
tiness determined to set up a public monu-
ment of his victory over Judas and them
that were with him.

⁷ But Maccabeus had ever sure confidence
that the Lord would help him: ⁸ wherefore
he exhorted his people not to fear the
coming of the heathen against them, but to
remember the help which in former times
they had received from heaven, and now to
expect the victory and aid, which should

come unto them from the Almighty. ⁹And so comforting them out of the law and the prophets, and withal putting them in mind of the battles that they won afore, he made them more cheerful.

¹⁰And when he had stirred up their minds, he gave them their charge, shewing them therewithal the falsehood of the heathen, and the breach of oaths. ¹¹Thus he armed every one of them, not so much with defence of shields and spears, as with comfortable and good words: and beside that, he told them a dream worthy to be believed, as if it had been so indeed, which did not a little rejoice them.

¹²And this was his vision: That Onias, who had been high priest, a virtuous and a good man, reverend in conversation, gentle in condition, well spoken also, and exercised from a child in all points of virtue, holding up his hands prayed for the whole body of the Jews. ¹³This done, in like manner there appeared a man with gray hairs, and exceeding glorious, who was of a wonderful and excellent majesty. ¹⁴Then Onias answered, saying, This is a lover of the brethren, who prayeth much for the people, and for the holy city, *to wit*, Jeremias the prophet of God. ¹⁵Whereupon Jeremias holding forth his right hand gave to Judas a sword of gold, and in giving it spake thus, ¹⁶Take this holy sword, a gift from God, with the which thou shalt wound the adversaries.

¹⁷Thus being well comforted by the words of Judas, which were very good, and able to stir them up to valour, and to encourage the hearts of the young men, they determined not to pitch camp, but courageously to set upon them, and manfully to try the matter by conflict, because the city and the sanctuary and the temple were in danger. ¹⁸For the care that they took for their wives, and their children, their brethren, and kinsfolks, was in least account with them: but the greatest and principal fear was for the holy temple. ¹⁹Also they that were in the city took not the least care, being troubled for the conflict abroad.

²⁰And now, when as all looked what should be the trial, and the enemies were already come near, and the army was set in array, and the beasts conveniently placed, and the horsemen set in wings,

²¹Maccabeus seeing the coming of the multitude, and the divers preparations of armour, and the fierceness of the beasts, stretched out his hands toward heaven, and called upon the Lord that worketh wonders, knowing that victory cometh not by arms, but even as it seemeth good to him, he giveth it to such as are worthy: ²²therefore in his prayer he said after this manner: O Lord, thou didst send thine angel in the time of Ezekias king of Judea, and didst slay in the host of Sennacherib an hundred fourscore and five thousand: ²³wherefore now also, O Lord of heaven, send a good angel before us for a fear and dread unto them; ²⁴and through the might of thine arm let those be stricken with terror, that come against thy holy people to blaspheme. And he ended thus.

²⁵Then Nicanor and they that were with him came forward with trumpets and songs.

²⁶But Judas and his company encountered

αὐτοῖς νίκην καὶ βοήθειαν. Καὶ παραμυθούμενος αὐτοὺς ἐκ 9 τοῦ νόμου καὶ τῶν προφητῶν, προσυπομνήσας δὲ αὐτοὺς καὶ τοὺς ἀγῶνας οὓς ἦσαν ἐκτετελεκότες, προθυμότερους αὐτοὺς κατέστησε.

Καὶ τοῖς θυμοῖς διεγείρας αὐτοὺς, παρήγγειλεν, ἅμα παρεπι- 10 δεικνὺς τὴν τῶν ἐθνῶν ἀθεσίαν καὶ τὴν τῶν ὀρκῶν παράβασιν. Ἐκαστον δὲ αὐτῶν καθοπλίσας, οὐ τὴν ἀσπίδων καὶ λογχῶν 11 ἀσφάλειαν, ὡς τὴν ἐν τοῖς ἀγαθοῖς λόγοις παράκλησιν, καὶ προσεξηγησάμενος ὄνειρον ἀξιόπιστον ὕπαρ τι πάντας εὐφρανεν.

Ἦν δὲ ἡ τούτου θεωρία τοιαύτη· Ὀνίαν τὸν γενόμενον 12 ἀρχιερέα, ἄνδρα καλὸν καὶ ἀγαθὸν, αἰδήμονα μὲν τὴν ἀπάντησιν, πρᾶον δὲ τὸν τρόπον, καὶ λαλιὰν προϊέμενον πρεπόντως, καὶ ἐκ παιδὸς ἐκμεμελητότα πάντα τὰ τῆς ἀρετῆς οἰκεῖα, τοῦτον τὰς χεῖρας προτείναντα κατεύχεσθαι τῷ παντὶ τῶν Ἰουδαίων συστήματι. Εἶθ' οὕτως ἐπιφανήναι ἄνδρα πολὺ καὶ δόξῃ διαφέροντα, 13 θαυμαστὴν δέ τινα καὶ μεγαλοπρεπεστάτην εἶναι τὴν περὶ αὐτὸν ὑπεροχὴν. Ἀποκριθέντα δὲ τὸν Ὀνιαν εἰπεῖν, ὁ φιλ- 14 ἀδελφος οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ πολλὰ προσευχόμενος περὶ τοῦ λαοῦ καὶ τῆς ἁγίας πόλεως, Ἰερεμίας ὁ τοῦ Θεοῦ προφήτης. Προτεί- 15 ναντα δὲ τὸν Ἰερεμίαν τὴν δεξιὰν παραδούναι τῷ Ἰούδα ῥομφαίαν χρυσοῦν, δίδόντα δὲ προσφωνῆσαι τάδε, λάβε τὴν 16 ἁγίαν ῥομφαίαν δῶρον παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ, δι' ἧς θραύσεις τοὺς ὑπεναντίους.

Παρακληθέντες δὲ τοῖς Ἰούδα λόγοις πάννυ καλοῖς καὶ δυνα- 17 μένοις ἐπ' ἀρετὴν παρορμηθεῖν, καὶ ψυχὰς νέων ἐπανορθῶσαι, διέγνωσαν μὴ στρατοπεδεύεσθαι, γενναίως δὲ ἐμφέρεισθαι, καὶ μετὰ πάσης εὐανδρίας ἐμπλακέντες κρίναι τὰ πράγματα, διὰ τὸ καὶ τὴν πόλιν, καὶ τὰ ἅγια, καὶ τὸ ἱερὸν κινδυνεύειν. Ἦν 18 γὰρ ὁ περὶ γυναικῶν καὶ τέκνων, ἔτι δὲ ἀδελφῶν καὶ συγγενῶν ἐν ἧττονι μέρει κείμενος αὐτοῖς ἀγὼν, μέγιστος δὲ καὶ πρῶτος ὁ περὶ τοῦ καθηγιασμένου ναοῦ φόβος. Ἦν δὲ καὶ τοῖς ἐν τῇ 19 πόλει κατειλημμένοις οὐ πάρεργος ἀγωνία ταρασσομένοις τῆς ἐν ὑπαίθρῳ προσβολῆς.

Καὶ πάντων ἤδη προσδοκόντων τὴν ἐσομένην κρίσιν, καὶ 20 ἤδη συμμιξάντων τῶν πολεμίων, καὶ τῆς στρατιᾶς ἐκταγείσης, καὶ τῶν θηρίων ἐπὶ μέρος εὐκαιρον ἀποκατασταθέντων, τῆς τε ἵππου κατὰ κέρας τεταγμένης,

Συνιδὼν ὁ Μακκαβαῖος τὴν τῶν πληθῶν παρουσίαν, καὶ τῶν 21 ὀπλων τὴν ποικίλην παρασκευὴν, τὴν τε τῶν θηρίων ἀγριότητα, προτείνας τὰς χεῖρας εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν, ἐπεκαλέσατο τὸν τερατοποιὸν Κύριον τὸν κατόπτην, γινώσκων ὅτι οὐκ ἔστι δι' ὀπλων ἡ νίκη, καθὼς δὲ ἂν αὐτῷ κριθεῖν, τοῖς ἀξίοις περιποιεῖται τὴν νίκην. Ἐλεγε δὲ ἐπικαλούμενος τόνδε τὸν τρόπον, σὺ, Δέσποτα, 22 ἀπέστειλας τὸν ἄγγελόν σου ἐπὶ Ἐζεκίου τοῦ βασιλέως τῆς Ἰουδαίας, καὶ ἀνείλες ἐκ τῆς παρεμβολῆς Σενναχηρείμ εἰς ἑκατὸν ὀγδοηκονταπέντε χιλιάδας. Καὶ νῦν, Δυνάστα τῶν 23 οὐρανῶν, ἀπόστειλον ἄγγελον ἀγαθὸν ἐμπροσθεν ἡμῶν εἰς δέος καὶ τρόμον. Μεγέθει βραχίονός σου καταπλαγείσαν οἱ μετὰ 24 βλασφημίας παραγενόμενοι ἐπὶ τὸν ἅγιόν σου λαόν· καὶ οὗτος μὲν ἐν τούτοις ἔληξεν.

Οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν Νικάνορα μετὰ σαλπίγγων καὶ παιάνων 25 προσῆγον, οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν Ἰούδαν μετ' ἐπικλήσεως καὶ εὐχῶν 26

- 27 συνέμιξαν τοῖς πολεμίοις. Καὶ ταῖς μὲν χερσὶν ἀγωνιζόμενοι, ταῖς δὲ καρδίαις πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν εὐχόμενοι, κατέστρωσαν οὐδὲν ἥττον μυριάδων τριῶν καὶ πεντακισχιλίων, τῇ τοῦ Θεοῦ μεγάλως εὐφρανθέντες ἐπιφανείᾳ.
- 28 Γενόμενοι δὲ ἀπὸ τῆς χρείας, καὶ μετὰ χαρᾶς ἀναλύοντες, 29 ἐπέγνωσαν προπεπτωκότα Νικάνορα σὺν τῇ πανοπλίᾳ. Γενομένης δὲ κραυγῆς καὶ ταραχῆς, εὐλόγουν τὸν Δυνάστην τῇ πατρίῳ φωνῇ.
- 30 Καὶ προσέταξεν ὁ καθ' ἅπαν σώματι καὶ ψυχῇ πρωταγωνιστῆς ὑπὲρ τῶν πολιτῶν, ὁ τὴν τῆς ἡλικίας εὐνοίαν εἰς ὁμοεθνεῖς διαφυλάξας, τὴν τοῦ Νικάνορος κεφαλὴν ἀποτεμόντας, καὶ τὴν χεῖρα σὺν τῷ ὤμῳ φέρειν εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα.
- 31 Παραγενόμενος δὲ ἐκεῖ, καὶ συγκαλέσας τοὺς ὁμοεθνεῖς, καὶ τοὺς ἱερεῖς πρὸ τοῦ θυσιαστηρίου στήσας, μετεπέμψατο τοὺς 32 ἐκ τῆς ἄκρας. Καὶ ἐπιδειξάμενος τὴν τοῦ μιαινοῦ Νικάνορος κεφαλὴν, καὶ τὴν χεῖρα τοῦ δυσφήμου, ἣν ἐκτείνας ἐπὶ τὸν ἅγιον τοῦ παντοκράτορος οἶκον ἐμεγαλαύχησε.
- 33 Καὶ τὴν γλώσσαν τοῦ δυσσεβοῦς Νικάνορος ἐκτεμὼν, ἔφη κατὰ μέρος δώσειν τοῖς ὀρνέοις, τὰ δὲ ἐπίχειρα τῆς ἀνοίας 34 κατέναντι τοῦ ναοῦ κρεμάσαι. Οἱ δὲ πάντες εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν εὐλόγησαν τὸν ἐπιφανῆ Κύριον, λέγοντες, εὐλογητὸς ὁ δια- 35 τηρήσας τὸν ἑαυτοῦ τόπον ἀμίαντον. Ἐξέδῃσε δὲ τὴν τοῦ Νικάνορος κεφαλὴν ἐκ τῆς ἄκρας, ἐπὶ δὴλον πᾶσι καὶ φανερόν τῆς τοῦ Κυρίου βοηθείας σημεῖον.
- 36 Καὶ ἐδογματίσαν πάντες μετὰ κοινοῦ ψηφίσματος μηδαμῶς ἑᾶσαι ἀπαρασήμαντον τήνδε τὴν ἡμέραν· ἔχειν δὲ ἐπίσημον τὴν τρισκαιδεκάτην τοῦ δωδεκάτου μηνός, ἣν Ἀδαρ λέγεται τῇ Συριακῇ φωνῇ, πρὸ μιᾶς ἡμέρας τῆς Μαρδοχαϊκῆς ἡμέρας.
- 37 Τῶν οὖν κατὰ Νικάνορα χωρησάντων οὕτω, καὶ ἀπ' ἐκείνων τῶν καιρῶν κρατηθείσης τῆς πόλεως ὑπὸ τῶν Ἑβραίων. Καὶ αὐτὸς αὐτόθι καταπαύσω τὸν λόγον.
- 38 Καὶ εἰ μὲν καλῶς καὶ εὐθίκτως τῇ συντάξει, τοῦτο καὶ αὐτὸς ἤθελον· εἰ δὲ εὐτελῶς καὶ μετρίως, τοῦτο ἐφικτὸν ἦν μοι.
- 39 Καθάπερ γὰρ οἶνον καταμόνας πίνειν, ὥσαύτως δὲ καὶ ὕδωρ πάλιν, πολέμιον· ὃν δὲ τρόπον οἶνος ὕδατι συγκερασθεὶς ἡδὺς, καὶ ἐπιτερπὴ τὴν χάριν ἀποτελεῖ, οὕτω καὶ τὸ τῆς κατασκευῆς τοῦ λόγου τέρπει τὰς ἀκοὰς τῶν ἐντυγχανόντων τῇ συντάξει· ἐνταῦθα δὲ ἔσται ἡ τελευτή.

the enemies with invocation and prayer. ²⁷ So that fighting with their hands, and praying unto God with their hearts, they slew no less than thirty and five thousand men: for through the appearance of God they were greatly cheered.

²⁸ Now when the battle was done, returning again with joy, they knew that Nicanor lay dead in his harness. ²⁹ Then they made a great shout and a noise, praising the Almighty in their own language.

³⁰ And Judas, who was ever the chief defender of the citizens both in body and mind, and who continued his love toward his countrymen all his life, commanded to strike off Nicanor's head, and his hand with his shoulder, and bring them to Jerusalem.

³¹ So when he was there, and had called them of his nation together, and set the priests before the altar, he sent for them that were of the tower, ³² and shewed them vile Nicanor's head, and the hand of that blasphemer, which with proud brags he had stretched out against the holy temple of the Almighty.

³³ And when he had cut out the tongue of that ungodly Nicanor, he commanded that they should give it by pieces unto the fowls, and hang up the reward of his madness before the temple. ³⁴ So every man praised toward the heaven the glorious Lord, saying, Blessed be he that hath kept his own place undefiled. ³⁵ He hanged also Nicanor's head upon the tower, an evident and manifest sign unto all of the help of the Lord.

³⁶ And they ordained all with a common decree in no case to let that day pass without solemnity, but to celebrate the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which in the Syrian tongue is called Adar, the day before Mardocheus' day. ³⁷ Thus went it with Nicanor: and from that time forth the Hebrews had the city in their power. And here will I make an end.

³⁸ And if *I have done well*, and as is fitting the story, it is that which I desired: but if slenderly and meanly, it is that which I could attain unto. ³⁹ For as it is hurtful to drink wine or water alone; and as wine mingled with water is pleasant, and delighteth the taste: even so speech finely framed delighteth the ears of them that read the story. And here shall be an end.

Μ Α Κ Κ Α Β Α Ι Ω Ν Γ'.

Now Philopater, on learning from those who came back that Antiochus had made himself master of the places which belonged to himself, sent orders to all his footmen and horsemen, took with him his sister Arsinoe, and marched out as far as the parts of Raphia, where Antiochus and his forces encamped.

²And one Theodotus, intending to carry out his design, took with him the bravest of the armed men who had been before committed to his trust by Ptolemy, and got through at night to the tent of Ptolemy, to kill him on his own responsibility, and so to end the war. ³But Dositheus, called the son of Drimulus, by birth a Jew, afterward a renegade from the laws and observances of his country, conveyed Ptolemy away, and made an obscure person lie down in his stead in the tent. It befel this man to receive the fate which was meant for the other.

⁴A fierce battle then took place; and the men of Antiochus prevailing, Arsinoe continually went up and down the ranks, and with dishevelled hair, with tears and entreaties, begged the soldiers to fight manfully for themselves, their children, and wives; and promised that if they proved conquerors, she would give them two minae of gold apiece. ⁵It thus fell out that their enemies were defeated in hand-to-hand encounter, and that many of them were taken prisoners.

⁶Having vanquished this attempt, the king then decided to proceed to the neighbouring cities, and encourage them. ⁷By doing this, and by making donations to their temples, he inspired his subjects with confidence. ⁸The Jews also sent some of their council and of their elders to him. The greetings, guest-gifts, and congratulations on the past, bestowed by them, filled him with the greater eagerness to visit their city.

⁹Having arrived at Jerusalem, sacrificed, and offered thank-offerings to the Greatest God, and done whatever else was suitable to the sanctity of the place, and entered the inner court, ¹⁰he was so struck with the exact magnificence of the place, and so wondered at the orderly arrangements of the temple, that he conceived the purpose of entering the sanctuary itself.

¹¹And when they told him that this was not permissible, none of the nation, no, nor even the priests in general, but only the

Ὁ ΔΕ Φιλοπάτωρ μαθὼν παρὰ τῶν ἀνακομισθέντων τὴν γενομένην τῶν ὑπ' αὐτοῦ κρατουμένων τόπων ἀφαίρεσιν ὑπὸ Ἀντιόχου, παραγγείλας ταῖς πάσαις δυνάμεσι πεζικαῖς τε καὶ ἱππικαῖς αὐτοῦ, καὶ τὴν ἀδελφὴν Ἀρσινόην συμπαραλαβὼν, ἐξώρμησε μέχρι τῶν κατὰ Ῥαφίαν τόπων, ὅπου παρεμβεβλήκεισαν οἱ περὶ Ἀντίοχον.

Θεόδοτος δέ τις ἐκπληρῶσαι τὴν ἐπιβουλὴν διανοηθεὶς, παραλαβὼν τῶν προϋποτεταγμένων αὐτῷ ὅπλων Πτολεμαϊκῶν τὰ κράτιστα, διεκομίσθη νύκτωρ ἐπὶ τὴν τοῦ Πτολεμαίου σκηνὴν, ὥς μόνος κτείνειν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἐν τούτῳ διαλῦσαι τὸν πόλεμον. Τοῦτον δὲ διαγαγὼν Δωσίθεος ὁ Δριμύλου λεγόμενος, τὸ γένος Ἰουδαῖος, ὕστερον δὲ μεταβαλὼν τὰ νόμιμα, καὶ τῶν πατρίων δογμάτων ἀπηλλοτριωμένος, ἄσημόν τινα κατέκλινεν ἐν τῇ σκηνῇ, ὃν συνέβη κομίσασθαι τὴν ἐκείνου κόλασιν.

Γενομένης δὲ καρτερᾶς μάχης, καὶ τῶν πραγμάτων μᾶλλον ἄ ἐρρωμένων τῷ Ἀντιόχῳ, ἱκανῶς ἢ Ἀρσινόῃ ἐπιπορευσαμένη τὰς δυνάμεις παρεκάλει, μετὰ οἴκτου καὶ δακρύων, τοὺς πλοκάμους λελυμένη, βοηθεῖν ἑαυτοῖς τε καὶ τοῖς τέκνοις καὶ γυναιξὶ θαρρᾶλέως, ἐπαγγελλομένη δώσειν νικήσασιν ἐκάστῳ δύο μνᾶς χρυσίου. Καὶ οὕτω συνέβη τοὺς ἀντιπάλους ἐν χειρονομίαις διαφθαρῆναι, πολλοὺς δὲ καὶ δορυαλώτους συλληφθῆναι.

Κατακρατήσας δὲ τῆς ἐπιβουλῆς ἔκρινε τὰς πλησίον πόλεις ἑπελθὼν παρακαλεῖσαι. Ποιήσας δὲ τοῦτο, καὶ τοῖς τεμένεσι ἑωρεὰς ἀπονείμας, εὐθαρσεῖς τοὺς ὑποτεταγμένους κατέστησε. Τῶν δὲ Ἰουδαίων διαπεμφαμένων πρὸς αὐτὸν ἀπὸ τῆς γερονσίας καὶ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων τοὺς ἀσπασομένους αὐτὸν. Καὶ ξένια κομιοῦντας, καὶ ἐπὶ τοῖς συμβεβηκόσι συγχαρησομένους, συνέβη μᾶλλον αὐτὸν προθυμηθῆναι ὥς τάχιστα πρὸς αὐτοὺς παραγενέσθαι.

Διακομισθεὶς δὲ εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα, καὶ θύσας τῷ μεγίστῳ Θεῷ, καὶ χάριτας ἀποδιδούς, καὶ τῶν ἐξῆς τι τῷ τόπῳ ποιήσας, καὶ δὴ παραγενόμενος εἰς τὸν τόπον, καὶ τῇ σπουδαιότητι καὶ εὐπρεπείᾳ καταπλαγεὶς, θαυμάσας δὲ καὶ τὴν τοῦ ἱεροῦ εὐταξίαν, ἐνεθυμήθη βουλεύσασθαι εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὸν ναόν.

Τῶν δὲ εἰπόντων μὴ καθήκειν γίνεσθαι τοῦτο, διὰ τὸ μηδὲ τοῖς ἐκ τοῦ ἔθνους ἐξεῖναι εἰσιέναι, μηδὲ πᾶσι τοῖς ἱερεῦσιν,

- ἀλλ' ἡ μὲν τῷ προηγουμένῳ πάντων ἀρχιερεῖ, καὶ τούτῳ ἅπασι
 12 κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν, οὐδαμῶς ἠβούλετο πείθεσθαι. Τοῦ τε νόμου
 παραναγνωσθέντος, οὐδαμῶς ἀπέλιπε προφερόμενος ἑαυτὸν,
 δεῖν εἰσελθεῖν, λέγων, καὶ εἰ ἐκεῖνοι ἐστέρηνται ταύτης τῆς
 13 τιμῆς, ἐμὲ οὐ δεῖ. Καὶ ἐπυνθάνετο, διὰ τίνα αἰτίαν εἰσερχό-
 μενον αὐτὸν εἰς πᾶν τέμενος, οὐθεὶς ἐκώλυσε τῶν παρόντων.
 14 Καί τις ἀπρονοήτως ἔφη κακῶς αὐτὸ τοῦτο τερατεύεσθαι.
 15 Γενομένου δέ φησι τούτου διὰ τίνα αἰτίαν, οὐχὶ πάντως εἰς-
 16 λεύσεσθαι καὶ θελόντων αὐτῶν καὶ μὴ; Τῶν δὲ ἱερέων ἐν ταῖς
 ἀγίαις ἐσθήσεσι προπεσόντων, καὶ δεομένων τοῦ μεγίστου Θεοῦ
 βοηθεῖν τῇ ἐνεστώσῃ ἀνάγκῃ, καὶ τὴν ὁρμὴν τοῦ κακῶς ἐπι-
 βαλλομένου μεταθεῖναι, κραυγῆς τε μετὰ δακρύων τὸ ἱερὸν
 17 ἐμπλησάντων, οἱ κατὰ τὴν πόλιν ἀπολιπόμενοι, ταραχθέντες
 ἐξεπήδησαν, ἄδηλον τιθέμενοι τὸ γινόμενον.
 18 Αἱ τε κατὰ κλειστοὶ παρθένοι ἐν θαλάμοις σὺν ταῖς τεκούσαις
 ἐξώρμησαν· καὶ σποδῶ καὶ κόνει τὰς κεφαλὰς πασάμεναι, γόων
 19 τε καὶ στεναγμῶν τὰς πλατείας ἐνεπίμπλων. Αἱ δὲ καὶ προσ-
 αρτίως ἐσταλμέναι, τοὺς πρὸς ἀπάντησιν διατεταγμένους
 παστοὺς, καὶ τὴν ἀρμόζουσαν αἰδῶ παραλείπουσαι, δρόμον
 20 ἄτακτον ἐν τῇ πόλει συνίσταντο. Τὰ δὲ νεογνὰ τῶν τέκνων, αἱ
 τε πρὸς τούτοις μητέρες καὶ τιθηνοὶ παραλιποῦσαι ἄλλως καὶ
 ἄλλως, αἱ μὲν κατ' οἴκους, αἱ δὲ κατὰ τὰς ἀγυῖας ἀνεπιτρέπτως
 21 εἰς τὸ πανυπέρτατον ἱερὸν ἠθροίζοντο. Ποικίλῃ δὲ ἦν τῶν εἰς
 τοῦτο συλλεγομένων ἡ δέησις ἐπὶ τοῖς ἀνοσίῳς ὑπ' ἐκείνου
 κατεγχειρουμένοις.
 22 Σύν τε τούτοις οἱ τῶν πολιτῶν θρασυνθέντες οὐκ ἠνείχοντο
 τέλεον αὐτοῦ ἐπικειμένου, καὶ τὸ τῆς προθέσεως αὐτοῦ ἐκπλη-
 23 ροῦν διανοοῦμένου. Φωνήσαντες δὲ τὴν ὁρμὴν ἐπὶ τὰ ὄπλα
 ποιήσασθαι, καὶ θαρρᾶλέως ὑπὲρ τοῦ πατρῴου νόμου τελευτᾶν,
 ἱκανὴν ἐποίησαν ἐν τῷ τόπῳ τραχύτητα, μόλις τε ὑπὸ τῶν
 γεραιῶν καὶ τῶν πρεσβυτέρων ἀποτραπέντες ἐπὶ τὴν αὐτὴν τῆς
 δέησεως ἕστησαν στάσιν.
 24 Καὶ τὸ μὲν πλῆθος, ὡς ἔμπροσθεν, ἐν τούτοις ἀνεστρέφετο
 25 δεόμενον. Οἱ δὲ περὶ τὸν βασιλέα πρεσβύτεροι πολλαχῶς
 ἐπειρῶντο τὸν ἀγέρωχον αὐτοῦ νοῦν ἐξιστάνειν τῆς ἐντεθυμη-
 26 μένης βουλῆς. Θρασυνθεὶς δὲ καὶ πάντα παραπέμψας, ἥδη
 καὶ πρόσβασιν ἀποιεῖτο, τέλος ἐπιθήσειν δοκῶν τῷ προειρη-
 μένῳ.
 27 Ταῦτ' οὖν καὶ οἱ περὶ αὐτὸν ὄντες θεωροῦντες, ἐτράπησαν εἰς
 τὸ σὺν τοῖς ἡμετέροις ἐπικαλεῖσθαι τὸν πᾶν κράτος ἔχοντα, τοῖς
 παροῦσιν ἐπαμύναι, μὴ παριδόντα τὴν ἄνομον καὶ ὑπερήφανον
 28 πρᾶξιν. Ἐκ δὲ τῆς πυκνοτάτης τε καὶ ἐμπόνου τῶν ὄχλων
 29 συναγομένης κραυγῆς, ἀνείκαστός τις ἦν βοή. Δοκεῖν γὰρ ἦν
 μὴ μόνον τοὺς ἀνθρώπους, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὰ τεῖχη καὶ τὸ πᾶν ἔδαφος
 ἡχεῖν, ἅτε δὴ τῶν πάντων τότε θάνατον ἀλλασσομένων ἀντὶ
 τῆς τοῦ τόπου βεβηλώσεως.
 2 Ὁ μὲν οὖν ἀρχιερεὺς Σίμων ἐξεναντίας τοῦ ναοῦ κάμψας τὰ
 γόνατα, καὶ τὰς χεῖρας προτείνας εὐτάκτως, ἐποίησατο τὴν
 δέησιν τοιαύτην·
 2 Κύριε Κύριε βασιλεῦ τῶν οὐρανῶν, καὶ Δέσποτα πάσης

supreme high priest of all, and he only once in a year, being allowed to go in, he would by no means give way. ¹² Then they read the law to him; but he persisted in obtruding himself, exclaiming, that he ought to be allowed: and saying, Be it that they were deprived of this honour, I ought not to be. ¹³ And he put the question, Why, when he entered all temples, none of the priests who were present forbade him?

¹⁴ He was thoughtlessly answered by some one, That he did wrong to boast of this. ¹⁵ Well; since I have done this, said he, be the cause what it may, shall I not enter with or without your consent? ¹⁶ And when the priests fell down in their sacred vestments imploring the Greatest God to come and help in time of need, and to avert the violence of the fierce aggressor, and when they filled the temple with lamentations and tears, ¹⁷ then those who had been left behind in the city were scared, and rushed forth, uncertain of the event.

¹⁸ Virgins, who had been shut up within their chambers, came out with their mothers, scattering dust and ashes on their heads, and filling the streets with outcries. ¹⁹ Women, but recently separated off, left their bridal chambers, left the reserve that befitted them, and ran about the city in a disorderly manner. ²⁰ New-born babes were deserted by the mothers or nurses who waited upon them; some here, some there, in houses, or in fields; these now, with an ardour which could not be checked, swarmed into the Most High temple. ²¹ Various were the prayers offered up by those who assembled in this place, on account of the unholy attempt of the king.

²² Along with these there were some of the citizens who took courage, and would not submit to his obstinacy, and his intention of carrying out his purpose. ²³ Calling out to arms, and to die bravely in defence of the law of their fathers, they created a great uproar in the place, and were with difficulty brought back by the aged and the elders to the station of prayer which they had occupied before.

²⁴ During this time the multitude kept on praying. ²⁵ The elders who surrounded the king strove in many ways to divert his haughty mind from the design which he had formed. ²⁶ He, in his hardened mood, insensible to all persuasion, was going onwards, with the view of carrying out this design.

²⁷ Yet even his own officers, when they saw this, joined the Jews in an appeal to Him who has all power, to aid in the present crisis, and not wink at such overweening lawlessness. ²⁸ Such was the frequency and the vehemence of the cry of the assembled crowd, that an indescribable noise ensued. ²⁹ Not the men only, the very walls and floor seemed to sound forth; all things preferring dissolution rather than to see the place defiled.

Now was it that the high priest Simon bowed his knees over against the holy place, and spread out his hands in reverent form, and uttered the following supplication:

² O Lord, Lord, King of the heavens, and

Ruler of the whole creation, Holy among the holy, sole Governor, Almighty, give ear to us who are oppressed by a wicked and profane one, who exulteth in his confidence and strength. ³It is thou, the Creator of all, the Lord of the universe, who art a righteous Governor, and judgest all who act with pride and insolence.

⁴It was thou who didst destroy the former workers of unrighteousness, among whom were the giants, who trusted in their strength and hardihood, by covering them with a measureless flood. ⁵It was thou who didst make the Sodomites, those workers of exceeding iniquity, men notorious for their vices, an example to after generations, when thou didst consume them with fire and brimstone.

⁶Thou didst make known thy power when thou causedst the bold Pharaoh, the enslaver of thy people, to pass through the ordeal of many and diverse inflictions. ⁷And thou rolledst the depths of the sea over him, when he made pursuit with chariots, and with a multitude of followers, and gavest a safe passage to those who put their trust in thee, the Lord of the whole creation. ⁸These saw and felt the works of thine hands, and praised thee the Almighty.

⁹Thou, O King, when thou createdst the illimitable and measureless earth, didst choose out this city: thou didst make this place sacred to thy name, albeit thou needest nothing: thou didst glorify it with thy illustrious presence, after constructing it to the glory of thy great and honourable name.

¹⁰And thou didst promise, out of love to the house of Israel, that should we fall away from thee, and become afflicted, and then come to this house and pray, thou wouldest hear our prayer. ¹¹Verily thou art faithful and true.

¹²And whereas thou didst often aid our fathers when hard pressed, and in low estate, and deliveredst them out of great dangers, ¹³see now, holy King, how through our many and great sins we are borne down, and made subject to our enemies, and are become weak and powerless. ¹⁴We being in this low condition, this bold and profane man seeks to dishonour this thy holy place, consecrated out of the earth to the name of thy Majesty.

¹⁵Thy dwelling-place, the heaven of heavens, is indeed unapproachable to men. ¹⁶But since it seemed good to thee to exhibit thy glory among thy people Israel, thou didst sanctify this place. ¹⁷Punish us not by means of the uncleanness of their men, nor chastise us by means of their profanity; lest the lawless ones should boast in their rage, and exult in exuberant pride of speech, and say, ¹⁸We have trampled upon the holy house, as idolatrous houses are trampled upon.

¹⁹Blot out our iniquities, and do away with our errors, and shew forth thy compassion in this hour. ²⁰Let thy mercies quickly go before us. Grant us peace, that the cast down and broken hearted may praise thee with their mouth.

²¹At that time God, who seeth all things, who is beyond all Holy among the holy, heard that prayer, so suitable; and scourged

κτίσεως, ἅγιε ἐν ἁγίοις, μόναρχε, παντοκράτωρ, πρόσχες ἡμῖν καταπονούμενοις ὑπὸ ἀνοσίου καὶ βεβήλου θράσει καὶ σθένει πεφρυαγμένον. Σὺ γὰρ ὁ κτίσας τὰ πάντα καὶ τῶν ὄλων ³ἐπικρατῶν δυνάστης δίκαιος εἶ, καὶ τοὺς ὕβρει καὶ ἀγερωχίᾳ πράσσοντάς τι κρίνεις.

Σὺ τοὺς ἔμπροσθεν ἀδικίαν ποιήσαντας, ἐν οἷς καὶ γίγαντες ⁴ἦσαν ῥώμῃ καὶ θράσει πεποιθότες, διέφθειρας, ἐπαγαγὼν αὐτοῖς ἀμέτρητον ὕδωρ. Σὺ τοὺς ὑπερφηανίαν ἐργαζομένους Σοδομί- ⁵τας, διαδήλους ταῖς κακίαις γενομένους, πυρὶ καὶ θείῳ κατέφλεξας, παράδειγμα τοῖς ἐπιγινομένοις καταστήσας.

Σὺ τὸν θρασὺν Φαραὼ καταδουλωσάμενον τὸν λαόν σου τὸν ⁶ἅγιον Ἰσραὴλ, ποικίλαις καὶ πολλαῖς δοκιμάσας τιμωρίαις, ἐγνώρισας τὴν σὴν δυναστείαν· ἐφ' αἷς ἐγνώρισας τὸ μέγα σου κράτος. Καὶ ἐπιδιώξαντα αὐτὸν σὺν ἄρμασι καὶ ὄχλων πλή- ⁷θει, ἐπέκλυσας βάθει θαλάσσης, τοὺς δὲ ἐμπιστεύσαντας ἐπὶ σοὶ τῷ τῆς ἀπάσης κτίσεως δυναστεύοντι, σώους διεκόμισας. Οἱ καὶ συνειδότες ἔργα σῆς χειρὸς, ἦνεν σὲ τὸν παντοκρά- ⁸τορα.

Σὺ, βασιλεῦ, κτίσας τὴν ἀπέραντον καὶ ἀμέτρητον γῆν, ⁹ἐξελέξω τὴν πόλιν ταύτην, καὶ ἀγίασας τὸν τόπον τοῦτον εἰς ὄνομά σοι τῷ τῶν ἀπάντων ἀπροσδεεῖ, καὶ παρεδόξασας ἐν ἐπιφανείᾳ μεγαλοπρεπεῖ, σύστασιν ποιησάμενος αὐτοῦ πρὸς δόξαν τοῦ μεγάλου καὶ ἐντίμου ὀνόματός σου.

Καὶ ἀγαπῶν τὸν οἶκον τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ, ἐπηγγείλω δὴ ὅτι ἐὰν ¹⁰γένηται ἡμῶν ἀποστροφή, καὶ καταλάβῃ ἡμᾶς στενοχωρία, καὶ ἐλθόντες εἰς τὸν τόπον τοῦτον δεηθῶμεν, εἰσακούσῃ τῆς δεήσεως ἡμῶν. Καὶ δὴ πιστὸς εἶ καὶ ἀληθινός. ¹¹

Ἐπεὶ δὲ πλεονάκεις θλιβέντων τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν ἐβοήθησας ¹²αὐτοῖς ἐν τῇ ταπεινώσει, καὶ ἐρρύσω αὐτοὺς ἐκ μεγάλων κινδύνων, ἰδοὺ δὴ νῦν, ἅγιε βασιλεῦ, διὰ τὰς πολλὰς καὶ μεγάλας ¹³ἡμῶν ἁμαρτίας καταπονούμεθα, καὶ ὑπετάγημεν τοῖς ἐχθροῖς ἡμῶν, καὶ παρείμεθα ἐν ἀδυναμίαις. Ἐν δὲ τῇ ἡμετέρᾳ ¹⁴καταπτώσει ὁ θρασὺς καὶ βέβηλος οὗτος ἐπιτηδεύει καθυβρίσαι τὸν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἀναδεδειγμένον τῷ ὀνόματι τῆς δόξης σου ἅγιον τόπον.

Τὸ μὲν γὰρ οἰκητήριόν σου οὐρανὸς τοῦ οὐρανοῦ ἀνέφικτος ¹⁵ἀνθρώποις ἐστίν. Ἀλλ' ἐπεὶ εὐδόκησας τὴν δόξαν σου ἐν τῷ ¹⁶λαῷ σου Ἰσραὴλ, ἡγίασας τὸν τόπον τοῦτον. Μὴ ἐκδικήσῃς ¹⁷ἡμᾶς ἐν τῇ τούτων ἀκαθαρσίᾳ, μηδὲ εὐθύνης ἡμᾶς ἐν βεβηλώσει· ἵνα μὴ καυχῆσονται οἱ παράνομοι ἐν θυμῷ αὐτῶν, μηδὲ ἀγαλλιάσονται ἐν ὑπερφηανίᾳ γλώσσης αὐτῶν, λέγοντες, ἡμεῖς ¹⁸κατεπατήσαμεν τὸν οἶκον τοῦ ἁγιασμοῦ, ὥς καταπατοῦνται οἱ οἶκοι τῶν προσοχισμάτων.

Ἀπάλειψον τὰς ἁμαρτίας ἡμῶν, καὶ διασκέδασον τὰς ἀμπλα- ¹⁹κίας ἡμῶν, καὶ ἐπίφανον τὸ ἔλεός σου κατὰ τὴν ὥραν ταύτην. Ταχὺ προκαταλαβέτωσαν ἡμᾶς οἱ οἰκτιρμοὶ σου· καὶ δὸς ²⁰αἰνέσεις ἐν στόματι τῶν καταπεπτωκότων καὶ συντετριμμένων τὰς ψυχὰς, ποιήσας ἡμῖν εἰρήνην.

Ἐνταῦθα ὁ πάντων ἐπόπτης Θεὸς, καὶ πρὸ πάντων ἅγιος ²¹ἐν ἁγίοις, εἰσακούσας τῆς ἐνθέσμου λιτανείας, τὸν ὕβρει καὶ

22 θράσει μεγάλως ἐπηρμένον ἐμάστιζεν αὐτὸν, ἔνθεν καὶ ἔνθεν κραδάνας αὐτὸν ὡς κάλαμον ὑπὸ ἀνέμου, ὥστε κατ' ἐδάφους ἄπρακτον ἔτι, καὶ τοῖς μέλεσι παραλελυμένον, μηδὲ φωνῆσαι δύνασθαι δικαίᾳ περιπεπλεγμένον κρίσει.

23 Ὅθεν οἱ τε φίλοι καὶ οἱ σωματοφύλακες αὐτοῦ ταχεῖαν καὶ ὀξεῖαν ἰδόντες τὴν καταλαβοῦσαν αὐτὸν εὐθύναν, φοβούμενοι μὴ καὶ τὸ ζῆν ἐκλείπη, ταχέως αὐτὸν ἐξείλκυσαν ὑπερβάλλοντι

24 καταπεπληγμένοι φόβῳ. Ἐν χρόνῳ δὲ ὕστερον ἀναλεξάμενος ἑαυτὸν, οὐδαμῶς εἰς μετὰ μελλον ἦλθεν ἐπιτιμηθεὶς, μετ' ἀπειλῆς

25 δὲ πικρᾶς ἀνέλυσε. Διακόμεσθαι δὲ εἰς τὴν Αἴγυπτον, καὶ τὰ τῆς κακίας ἐπαύξων, διὰ δὲ τῶν προαποδεδειγμένων συμποτῶν

26 καὶ ἐταίρων τοῦ παντὸς δικαίου κεχωρισμένων, οὐ μόνον ταῖς ἀναριθμήτοις ἀσελγείαις διηρκέσθη, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον θράσους προῆλθεν, ὥστε δυσφημίας ἐν τοῖς τόποις συνίστασθαι, καὶ πολλοὺς τῶν φίλων ἀτενίζοντας εἰς τὴν τοῦ βασιλέως πρόθεσιν καὶ αὐτοὺς ἐπεσθαι τῇ ἐκείνου θελήσει.

27 Προέθετο δὲ δημοσίᾳ κατὰ τοῦ ἔθνους διαδοῦναι ψόγον· καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ κατὰ τὴν αὐλὴν πύργου στήλην ἀναστήσας, ἐξεκόλαψε

28 γραφὴν, μηδένα τῶν μὴ θυόντων εἰς τὰ ἱερὰ αὐτῶν εἰσιέναι, πάντας δὲ τοὺς Ἰουδαίους εἰς λαογραφίαν καὶ οἰκετικὴν διάθεσιν ἀχθῆναι, τοὺς δὲ ἀντιλέγοντας βία φερομένους τοῦ ζῆν

29 μεταστήσαι, τούτους τε ἀπογραφομένους χαράσσεσθαι καὶ διὰ πυρὸς εἰς τὸ σῶμα παρασήμῳ Διονύσου κισσοφύλλῳ, οὓς καὶ καταχωρίσαι εἰς τὴν προσυνεσταλμένην αὐθεντίαν.

30 Ἵνα δὲ μὴ τοῖς πᾶσιν ἀπεχθόμενος φαίνεται, ὑπέγραψεν, ἂν δέ τινες ἐξ αὐτῶν προαιρῶνται ἐν τοῖς κατὰ τὰς τελετὰς μεμνημένοις ἀναστρέφεσθαι, τούτους ἰσοπολίτας Ἀλεξανδρεῦσιν εἶναι.

31 Ἐνιοὶ μὲν οὖν ἐπὶ πόλεως τὰς τῆς πόλεως εὐσεβείας ἐπιβάθρας στυγοῦντες, εὐχερῶς ἑαυτοὺς ἐδίδοσαν, ὡς μεγάλης τινὸς κοινωνήσοντες εὐκλείας ἀπὸ τῆς ἐσομένης τῷ βασιλεῖ

32 συναναστροφῆς. Οἱ δὲ πλείστοι γενναῖα ψυχῇ ἐνίσχυσαν καὶ οὐ διέστησαν τῆς εὐσεβείας· τὰ τε χρήματα περὶ τοῦ ζῆν ἀντικαταλλασσομένοι, ἀδεῶς ἐπειρῶντο ἑαυτοὺς ῥύσασθαι ἐκ

33 τῶν ἀπογραφῶν. Εὐέλπιδες δὲ καθειστήκεισαν ἀντιλήψεως τεύξεσθαι, καὶ τοὺς ἀποχωροῦντας ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐβδελύσσοντο, καὶ ὡς πολεμίους τοῦ ἔθνους ἔκρινον, καὶ τῆς κοινῆς συναναστροφῆς καὶ εὐχρηστίας ἐστέρουν.

3 Ἀ καὶ μεταλαμβάνων ὁ δυσσεβὴς ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον ἐχόλησεν, ὥστε οὐ μόνον τοῖς κατ' Ἀλεξάνδρειαν διοργίζεσθαι, ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῖς ἐν τῇ χώρᾳ βαρυτέρως ἐναντιωθῆναι, καὶ προστάξαι σπεύσαντας συναγαγεῖν πάντας ἐπιτοαυτὸ, καὶ χειρίστῳ μόρῳ τοῦ ζῆν μεταστήσαι.

2 Τούτων δὲ οἰκονομουμένων, φήμη δυσμενῆς ἐξηχεῖτο κατὰ τοῦ γένους ἀνθρώποις συμφρονοῦσιν εἰς κακοποίησιν, ἀφορμῆς διδομένης εἰς διάθεσιν, ὡς ἂν ἀπὸ τῶν νομίμων αὐτοὺς κωλύόν-

3 των. Οἱ δὲ Ἰουδαῖοι τὴν μὲν πρὸς τοὺς βασιλεῖς εὐνοίαν

4 καὶ πίστιν ἀδιάστροφον ἦσαν διαφυλάσσοντες· σεβόμενοι δὲ τὸν Θεὸν καὶ τῷ τούτου νόμῳ πολιτευόμενοι, χωρισμὸν ἐποίουν ἐπὶ τινων καὶ καταστροφάς· δι' ἣν αἰτίαν ἐνίοις ἀπεχθεῖς

the man greatly uplifted with scorn and insolence. ²²Shaking him to and fro as a reed is shaken with the wind, he cast him upon the pavement, powerless, with limbs paralyzed; by a righteous judgment deprived of the faculty of speech.

²³His friends and body-guards, beholding the swift recompense which had suddenly overtaken him, struck with exceeding terror, and fearing that he would die, speedily removed him. ²⁴When in course of time he had come to himself, this severe check caused no repentance within him, but he departed with bitter threatenings. ²⁵He proceeded to Egypt, grew worse in wickedness through his beforementioned companions in wine, who were lost to all goodness; ²⁶and not satisfied with countless acts of impiety, his audacity so increased that he raised evil reports there, and many of his friends, watching his purpose attentively, joined in furthering his will.

²⁷His purpose was to inflict a public stigma upon our race; wherefore he erected a pillar at the tower-porch, and caused the following inscription to be engraven upon it: ²⁸That entrance to their own temple was to be refused to all those who would not sacrifice; that all the Jews were to be registered among the common people; that those who resisted were to be forcibly seized and put to death; ²⁹that those who were thus registered, were to be marked on their persons by the ivy-leaf symbol of Dionysus, and to be set apart with these limited rights.

³⁰To do away with the appearance of hating them all, he had it written underneath, that if any of them should elect to enter the community of those initiated in the rites, these should have equal rights with the Alexandrians.

³¹Some of those who were over the city, therefore, abhorring any approach to the city of piety, unhesitatingly gave in to the king, and expected to derive some great honour from a future connection with him.

³²A nobler spirit, however, prompted the majority to cling to their religious observances, and by paying money that they might live unmolested, these sought to escape the registration: ³³cheerfully looking forward to future aid, they abhorred their own apostates, considering them to be national foes, and debarring them from the common usages of social intercourse.

On discovering this, so incensed was the wicked king, that he no longer confined his rage to the *Jews* in Alexandria. Laying his hand more heavily upon those who lived in the country, he gave orders that they should be quickly collected into one place, and most cruelly deprived of their lives.

²While this was going on, an invidious rumour was uttered abroad by men who had banded together to injure the Jewish race. The purport of their charge was, that the *Jews* kept them away from the ordinances of the law. ³Now, while the *Jews* always maintained a feeling of unswerving loyalty towards the kings, ⁴yet, as they worshipped God, and observed his law, they made certain distinctions, and avoided certain things. Hence some persons held

them in odium; ⁵ although, as they adorned their conversation with works of righteousness, they had established themselves in the good opinion of the world.

⁶ What all the rest of mankind said, was, however, made of no account by the foreigners; ⁷ who said much of the exclusiveness of the Jews with regard to their worship and meats; they alleged that they were men unsociable, hostile to the king's interests, refusing to associate with him or his troops. By this way of speaking, they brought much odium upon them.

⁸ Nor was this unexpected uproar and sudden conflux of people unobserved by the Greeks who lived in the city, concerning men who had never harmed them: yet to aid them was not in their power, since all was oppression around; but they encouraged the Jews by sympathizing with them in their troubles, and expected a favourable turn of affairs: ⁹ He who knoweth all things, will not, *said they*, disregard so great a people. ¹⁰ Some of the neighbours, friends, and fellow dealers of the Jews, even called them secretly to an interview, pledged them their assistance, and promised to do their very utmost for them.

¹¹ Now the king, elated with his prosperous fortune, and not regarding the superior power of God, but thinking to persevere in his present purpose, wrote the following letter to the prejudice of the Jews.

¹² King Ptolemy Philopater, to the commanders and soldiers in Egypt, and in all places, health and happiness! ¹³ I am right well; and so, too, are my affairs. ¹⁴ Since our Asiatic campaign, the particulars of which ye know, and which by the aid of the gods, not lightly given, and by our own vigour, has been brought to a successful issue according to our expectation, ¹⁵ we resolved, not with strength of spear, but with gentleness and much humanity, as it were to nurse the inhabitants of Cœle-Syria and Phœnicia, and to be their willing benefactors.

¹⁶ So, having bestowed considerable sums of money upon the temples of the several cities, we proceeded even as far as Jerusalem; and went up to honour the temple of these wretched beings who never cease from their folly. ¹⁷ To outward appearance they received us willingly; but belied that appearance by their deeds. When we were eager to enter their temple, and to honour it with the most beautiful and exquisite gifts, ¹⁸ they were so carried away by their old arrogance, as to forbid us the entrance; while we, out of our forbearance toward all men, refrained from exercising our power upon them. ¹⁹ And thus, exhibiting their enmity against us, they alone among the nations lift up their heads against kings and benefactors, as men unwilling to submit to any thing reasonable.

²⁰ We then, having endeavoured to make allowance for the madness of these persons, and on our victorious return treating all people in Egypt courteously, acted in a manner which was befitting. ²¹ Accordingly, bearing no ill-will against their kinsmen [at Jerusalem], but rather remembering our connection with them, and the numerous matters with sincere heart from a remote period entrusted to them, we wished to venture a

ἐφαίνοντο. Τῇ δὲ τῶν δικαίων εὐπραξία κοσμοῦντες τὴν ὁ συναναστροφὴν, ἅπασιν ἀνθρώποις εὐδόκιμοι καθειστήκεισαν.

Τὴν μὲν οὖν περὶ τοῦ γένους ἐν πᾶσι θρυλλομένην εὐπραξίαν οἱ ἀλλόφυλοι οὐδαμῶς διηριθμήσαντο. Τὴν δὲ περὶ τῶν προσκυνήσεων καὶ τροφῶν διάστασιν ἐθρύλλουν, φάσκοντες μήτε τῷ βασιλεῖ μήτε ταῖς δυνάμεσιν ὁμοσπόνδους τοὺς ἀνθρώπους γενέσθαι, δυσμενεῖς δὲ εἶναι καὶ μέγα τι τοῖς πράγμασιν ἐναντιούμενους· καὶ οὐ τῷ τυχόντι περιῆψαν ψόγῳ.

Οἱ δὲ κατὰ τὴν πόλιν Ἕλληνες οὐδὲν ἡδίκημένοι, ταραχὴν ἀπροσδόκητον περὶ τοὺς ἀνθρώπους θεωροῦντες, καὶ συνδρομὰς ἀπροσκόπους γινομένας βοηθεῖν μὲν οὐκ ἔσθον· τυραννικὴ γὰρ ἦν ἡ διάθεσις· παρεκάλουν δὲ καὶ δυσφόρως εἶχον, καὶ μεταπεσεῖσθαι ταῦτα ὑπελάμβανον. Μὴ γὰρ οὕτως παροραθῇ σεται τηλικούτο σύστημα μηδὲν ἡγνοηκώς. Ἦδη δὲ καὶ τινες γείτονές τε καὶ φίλοι καὶ συμπραγματευόμενοι, μυστικῶς τινὰς ἐπισπώμενοι, πίστει ἐδίδουν συνασπείν, καὶ πᾶν ἐκτενὲς προσοίσεσθαι πρὸς ἀντίληψιν.

Ἐκεῖνος μὲν οὖν τῇ κατὰ τὸ παρὸν εὐημερία γεγυρωμένος, καὶ οὐ καθορῶν τὸ τοῦ μεγίστου Θεοῦ κράτος, ὑπολαμβάνων δὲ διηλεκτῶς ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ διαμένειν βουλῇ, ἔγραψε κατ' αὐτῶν ἐπιστολὴν τήνδε.

Βασιλεὺς Πτολεμαῖος Φιλοπάτωρ τοῖς κατ' Αἴγυπτον, καὶ κατὰ τόπον στρατηγοῖς καὶ στρατιώταις, χαίρειν καὶ ἐρρῶσθαι. Ἐρρῶμαι δὲ καὶ ἐγὼ αὐτὸς καὶ τὰ πράγματα ἡμῶν. Ἐκ τῆς εἰς τὴν Ἀσίαν γενομένης ἡμῖν ἐπιστρατείας, ἧς ἴστε καὶ αὐτοὶ, τῇ τῶν θεῶν πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἀπροπτῶτῳ συμμαχίᾳ, καὶ τῇ ἡμετέρᾳ δὲ ῥώμῃ κατὰ λόγον ἐπ' ἄριστον τέλος ἀχθείσης, ἡγησάμεθα μὴ βία δόρατος, ἐπικεικία δὲ καὶ πολλῇ φιλοανθρωπία τιθηνήσασθαι τὰ κατοικοῦντα κοίλην Συρίαν καὶ Φοινίκην ἔθνη, εὐποιῆσαί τε ἀσμένως.

Καὶ τοῖς κατὰ πόλεσιν ἱεροῖς ἀπονείμαντες προσόδους πλείστας, προήχθημεν καὶ εἰς τὰ Ἱεροσόλυμα, ἀναβάντες τιμῆσαι τὸ ἱερὸν τῶν ἀλιτηρίων καὶ μηδέποτε ληγόντων τῆς ἀνοίας. Οἱ δὲ λόγῳ μὲν τὴν ἡμετέραν ἀποδεξάμενοι παρουσίαν, τῷ δὲ πράγματι νόθως, προθυμηθέντων ἡμῶν εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὸν ναὸν αὐτῶν, καὶ τοῖς ἐκπρεπέσι καὶ καλλίστοις ἀναθήμασι τιμῆσαι, τύφοις φερόμενοι παλαιότεροις εἶρξαν ἡμᾶς τῆς εἰσόδου, ἀπολειπόμενοι τῆς ἡμετέρας ἀλκῆς, δι' ἣν ἔχομεν πρὸς ἅπαντας ἀνθρώπους φιλανθρωπίαν. Τὴν δὲ αὐτῶν εἰς ἡμᾶς δυσμένειαν ἐκδηλον καθιστάντες, ὡς μονώτατοι τῶν ἐθνῶν βασιλεῦσι καὶ τοῖς ἐαυτῶν εὐεργέταις ὑψαυχενοῦντες, οὐδὲν γνήσιον βούλονται φέρειν.

Ἡμεῖς δὲ τῇ τούτων ἀνοίᾳ συμπεριενεχθέντες, καὶ μετὰ νίκης διακομισθέντες, καὶ εἰς τὴν Αἴγυπτον τοῖς πᾶσιν ἔθνεσι φιланθρώπως ἀπαντήσαντες, καθὼς ἔπρεπεν ἐποιήσαμεν. Ἐν δὲ τούτοις πρὸς τοὺς ὁμοφύλους αὐτῶν ἀμνησικακίαν ἅπασι γνωρίζοντες, διὰ τε τὴν συμμαχίαν καὶ τὰ πεπιστευμένα μετὰ ἀπλότητος αὐτοῖς ἀρχήθεν μύρια πράγματα τολμήσαντες

ἐξαλλοιῶσαι, ἐβουλήθημεν καὶ πολιτείας αὐτοὺς Ἀλεξανδρέων καταξιώσαι, καὶ μετόχους τῶν αἰὲ ἱερῶν καταστήσαι.

- 22 Οἱ δὲ τοῦναντίον ἐκδεχόμενοι, καὶ τῇ συμφύτῳ κακοηθείᾳ
τὸ καλὸν ἀπωσάμενοι, διηλεκῶς δὲ εἰς τὸ φαῦλον ἐκνεύοντες,
23 οὐ μόνον ἀπεστρέψαντο τὴν ἀτίμητον πολιτείαν, ἀλλὰ καὶ
βδελύσσονται λόγῳ τε καὶ σιγῇ τοὺς ἐν αὐτοῖς ὀλίγους πρὸς
ἡμᾶς γνησίως διακειμένους, παρέκαστα ὑφορώμενοι διὰ τῆς
δυσκλεεστάτης ἐμβιώσεως διὰ τάχους ἡμᾶς καταστρέψαι τὰ
24 κατορθώματα. Διὸ καὶ τεκμηρίοις καλῶς πεπεισμένοι τού-
τους κατὰ πάντα δυσνοεῖν ἡμῖν τρόπον, καὶ προνοοῦμενοι
μήποτε αἰφνιδίου μετέπειτα ταραχῆς ἐνστάσης ἡμῖν, τοὺς
δυσσεβεῖς τούτους κατὰ νότου προδότας καὶ βαρβάρους ἔχω-
μεν πολεμίους.
- 25 Προσ τετάχαμεν ἅμα τῷ προσπεσεῖν τὴν ἐπιστολὴν τήνδε,
αὐθωρὶ τοὺς ἐννεμομένους σὺν γυναιξὶ καὶ τέκνοις μετὰ ὕβρεων
καὶ σκυλμῶν ἀποστεῖλαι πρὸς ἡμᾶς ἐνδεσμοῖς σιδηροῖς πάντο-
θεν κατακεκλεισμένους, εἰς ἀνέκестον καὶ δυσκλεῆ πρέποντα
26 δυσμενέσι φόνον. Τούτων γὰρ ὁμοῦ κολασθέντων, διειλήφα-
μεν εἰς τὸν ἐπίλοιπον χρόνον τελείως ἡμῖν τὰ πράγματα ἐν
εὐσταθείᾳ καὶ βελτίστῃ διαθέσει κατασταθήσεσθαι.
- 27 Ὃς δ' ἂν σκεπάσῃ τινὰ τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἀπὸ γεραιοῦ μέχρι
νηπίου μέχρι τῶν ὑπομασθίων, αἰσχίστοις βασάνοις ἀποτυμπα-
28 νισθήσεται πανοικί. Μηνύειν δὲ τὸν βουλόμενον, ἐφ' ᾧ τὴν
οὐσίαν τοῦ ἐμπίπτοντος ὑπὸ τὴν εὐθύναν λήψεται, καὶ ἐκ τοῦ
βασιλικοῦ ἀργυρίου δραχμὰς δισχιλίας, καὶ τῆς ἐλευθερίας
τεύξεται καὶ στεφανωθήσεται.
- 29 Πᾶς δὲ τόπος οὗ ἔαν φωραθῇ τὸ σύνοκον σκεπαζόμενος
Ἰουδαῖος, ἄβατος καὶ πυριφλεγῆς γινέσθω, καὶ πάσῃ θνητῇ
φύσει κατὰ πάντα ἄχρηστος φανήσεται εἰς τὸν αἰὲ χρόνον.
- 30 Καὶ ὁ μὲν τῆς ἐπιστολῆς τύπος οὕτως ἐγγράπτο.

4 Παντῇ δὲ ὅπου προσέπιπτε τοῦτο τὸ πρόσταγμα, δημοτελῆς
συνίστατο τοῖς ἔθνεσιν εὐωχία μετὰ ἀλαλαγμῶν καὶ χαρᾶς, ὥς
ἂν τῆς προκατεσκιρῶμένης αὐτοῖς πάλαι κατὰ διάνοιαν, μετὰ
παρρησίας συνεκφαινομένης ἀπεχθείας.

2 Τοῖς δὲ Ἰουδαίοις ἀνέκестον πένθος ἦν καὶ πανόδυρτος μετὰ
δακρύων βοή, στεναγμοῖς πεπυρωμένης τῆς αὐτῶν πάντοθεν
καρδίας, ὀλοφυρομένων τὴν ἀπροσδόκητον ἐξαίφνης ἐπικριθεῖ-
3 σαν αὐτοῖς ὀλεθρίαν. Τίς νομὸς ἢ πόλις, ἢ τίς τὸ σύνολον
οἰκητὸς τόπος, ἢ τίνες ἀγυιαί κοπετοῦ καὶ γόων ἐπ' αὐτοῖς οὐκ
ἐμπιπλῶντο;

4 Οὕτω γὰρ μετὰ πικρᾶς καὶ ἀνοικτοῦ ψυχῆς ὑπὸ τῶν κατὰ
πόλιν στρατηγῶν ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐξαπεστέλλοντο, ὥστε ἐπὶ ταῖς
ἐξάλλοις τιμωρίαις καὶ τινὰς τῶν ἐχθρῶν, λαμβάνοντας πρὸ
τῶν ὀφθαλμῶν τὸν κοινὸν ἔλεον, καὶ λογιζομένους τὴν ἄδηλον
τοῦ βίου καταστροφὴν, δακρύειν αὐτῶν τρισάθλιον ἐξαποστο-
5 λήν. Ἦγετο γὰρ γεραιῶν πλήθος πολιᾶ πεπυκασμένων, τὴν
ἐκ τοῦ γήρως νωθρότητα ποδῶν ἐπικύφων, ἀνατροπῆς ὁρμῇ
βιαίας, ἀπάσης αἰδοῦς ἄνευ πρὸς ὀξείαν καταχρωμένων πορείαν.

6 Αἱ δὲ ἄρτι πρὸς βίου κοινωνίαν γαμικὸν ὑπεληλυθυῖαι
παστὸν νεάνιδες, ἀντὶ τέρψεως μεταλαβοῦσαι γόους, καὶ κόνει
τὴν μυροβραχὴ πέφυρμένα κόμην, ἀκαλύπτως δὲ ἀγόμεναι,

total alteration of their state, by bestowing upon them the rights of citizens of Alexandria, and to admit them to the everlasting rites of our solemnities.

²²All this, however, they have taken in a very different spirit. With their innate malignity, they have spurned the fair offer; and constantly inclining to evil, ²³have rejected the inestimable rights. Not only so, but by using speech, and by refraining from speech, they abhor the few among them who are heartily disposed towards us; ever deeming that their ignoble course of procedure will force us to do away with our reform. ²⁴Having then, received certain proofs that these *Jews* bear us every sort of ill-will, we must look forward to the possibility of some sudden tumult among ourselves, when these impious men may turn traitors and barbarous enemies.

²⁵As soon, therefore, as the contents of this letter become known to you, in that same hour we order those *Jews* who dwell among you, with wives and children, to be sent to us, vilified and abused, in chains of iron, to undergo a death, cruel and ignominious, suitable to men disaffected. ²⁶For by the punishment of them in one body we perceive that we have found the only means of establishing our affairs for the future on a firm and satisfactory basis.

²⁷Whoever shall shield a Jew, whether it be old man, child, or suckling, shall with his whole house be tortured to death. ²⁸Whoever shall inform against the *Jews*, besides receiving the property of the person charged, shall be presented with two thousand drachmæ from the royal treasury, shall be made free, and shall be crowned.

²⁹Whatever place shall shelter a Jew, shall, when he is hunted forth, be put under the ban of fire, and be for ever rendered useless to every living being for all time to come. ³⁰Such was the purport of the king's letter.

Wherever this decree was received, the people kept up a revelry of joy and shouting; as if their long-pent-up, hardened hatred, were now to shew itself openly.

²The Jews suffered great throes of sorrow, and wept much; while their hearts, all things around being lamentable, were set on fire as they bewailed the sudden destruction which was decreed against them.

³What home, or city, or place at all inhabited, or what streets were there, which their condition did not fill with wailing and lamentation?

⁴They were sent out unanimously by the generals in the several cities, with such stern and pitiless feeling, that the exceptional nature of the infliction moved even some of their enemies. These, influenced by sentiments of common humanity, and reflecting upon the uncertain issue of life, shed tears at this their miserable expulsion. ⁵A multitude of aged hoary-haired men, were driven along with halting bending feet, urged onward by the impulse of a violent, shameless force to quick speed.

⁶Girls who had entered the bridal chamber quite lately, to enjoy the partnership of marriage, exchanged pleasure for misery; and with dust scattered upon their myrrh-anointed heads, were hurried along un-

veiled, and, in the midst of outlandish insults, set up with one accord a lamentable cry in lieu of the marriage hymn. ⁷ Bound, and exposed to public gaze, they were hurried violently on board ship.

⁸ The husbands of these, in the prime of their youthful vigour, instead of crowns wore halters round their necks; instead of feasting and youthful jollity, spent the rest of their nuptial days in wailings, and saw only the grave at hand. ⁹ They were dragged along by unyielding chains, like wild beasts: of these, some had their necks thrust into the benches of the rowers; while the feet of others were enclosed in hard fetters. ¹⁰ The planks of the deck above them barred out the light, and shut out the day on every side, so that they might be treated like traitors during the whole voyage.

¹¹ They were conveyed accordingly in this vessel, and at the end of it arrived at Schedia. The king had ordered them to be cast into the vast hippodrome, which was built in front of the city. This place was well adapted by its situation to expose them to the gaze of all comers into the city, and of those who went from the city into the country. Thus they could hold no communication with his forces; nay, were deemed unworthy of any civilized accommodation.

¹² When this was done, the king, hearing that their brethren in the city often went out and lamented the melancholy distress of these victims, ¹³ was full of rage, and commanded that they should be carefully subjected to the same (and not one whit milder) treatment. ¹⁴ The whole nation was now to be registered. Every individual was to be specified by name; not for that hard servitude of labour which we have a little before mentioned, but that he might expose them to the before-mentioned tortures; and finally, in the short space of a day, might extirpate them by his cruelties. ¹⁵ The registering of these men was carried on cruelly, zealously, assiduously, from the rising of the sun to its going down, and was not brought to an end in forty days.

¹⁶ The king was filled with great and constant joy, and celebrated banquets before the temple idols. His erring heart, far from the truth, and his profane mouth, gave glory to idols, deaf and incapable of speaking or aiding, and uttered unworthy speech against the Greatest God.

¹⁷ At the end of the above-mentioned interval of time, the registrars brought word to the king that the multitude of the Jews was too great for registration, ¹⁸ inasmuch as there were many still left in the land, of whom some were in inhabited houses, and others were scattered about in various places; so that all the commanders in Egypt were insufficient for the work. ¹⁹ The king threatened them, and charged them with taking bribes, in order to contrive the escape of the Jews: but was clearly convinced of the truth of what had been said. ²⁰ They said, and proved, that paper and pens had failed them for the carrying out of their purpose. ²¹ Now this was the active interference of the unconquerable Providence which assisted the Jews from heaven.

θρήνον ἀνθ' ὑμεναίων ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἐξήρχον, ὡς ἐσπαραγμέναι σκυλμοῖς ἄλλοεθνέσι. Δέσμαι δὲ δημόσιαι μέχρι τῆς εἰς τὸ 7 πλοῖον ἐμβολῆς εἴκοντο μετὰ βίας.

Οἱ τε τούτων συζυγεῖς βρόχοις ἀντὶ στεφένων τοὺς αὐχένας 8 περιπεπλεγμένοι μετὰ ἀκμαίας καὶ νεανικῆς ἡλικίας, ἀντὶ εὐωχίας καὶ νεωτερικῆς ῥαθυμίας τὰς ἐπιλοίπους τῶν γάμων ἡμέρας ἐν θρήνοις διήγον, παρὰ πόδας ἤδη τὸν ἄδην ὀρώντες κείμενον. Κατήχθησαν δὲ θηρίων τρόπον ἀγόμενοι σιδηρο- 9 δέσμοις ἀνάγκαις· οἱ μὲν τοῖς ζυγοῖς τῶν πλοίων προσηλωμένοι τοὺς τραχήλους, οἱ δὲ τοὺς πόδας ἀρρήκτοις κατησφαλισμένοι πέδαις, ἔτι καὶ τῷ καθύπερθε πυκνῷ σανιδώματι διακειμένω 10 τὸ φέγγος ἀποκλειόμενοι, ὅπως πάντοθεν ἐσκοτισμένοι τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς, ἀγωγὴν ἐπιβούλων ἐν παντὶ τῷ κατάπλῳ λαμβάνωσι.

Τούτων δὲ ἐπὶ τὴν λεγομένην Σχεδίαν ἀχθέντων, καὶ τοῦ 11 παράπλου περανθέντος, καθὼς ἦν δεδογματισμένον τῷ βασιλεῖ, προσέταξεν αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ πρὸ τῆς πόλεως ἵπποδρόμῳ παρεμβαλεῖν ἀπλῆτῳ καθεστῶτι περιμέτρῳ, καὶ πρὸς παραδειγματισμὸν ἄγαν εὐκαιροτάτῳ καθεστῶτι πᾶσι τοῖς καταπορευομένοις εἰς τὴν πόλιν, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ τούτων εἰς τὴν χώραν στελλομένοις πρὸς ἐκδημίαν· πρὸς τὸ μὴδὲ ταῖς δυνάμεσιν αὐτοῦ κοινωνεῖν, μὴδὲ τὸ σύνολον καταξιῶσαι περιβόλων.

Ὡς δὲ τοῦτο ἐγενήθη, ἀκούσας τοὺς ἐκ τῆς πόλεως ὁμοεθνεῖς 12 κρυβῆ ἐκπορευομένους πυκνότερον ἀποδύρεσθαι τὴν ἀκλεᾶ τῶν ἀδελφῶν ταλαιπωρίαν, διοργισθεὶς προσέταξε καὶ τούτοις ὁμοῦ 13 τὸν αὐτὸν τρόπον ἐπιμελῶς ὡς ἐκείνοις ποιῆσαι, μὴ λειπομένοις κατὰ μηδένα τρόπον τῆς ἐκείνων τιμωρίας, Ἀπογραφῆναι δὲ πᾶν τὸ φύλον ἐξ ὀνόματος· οὐ γὰρ τὴν ἔμπροσθε βραχεῖ 14 προδεδηλωμένην τῶν ἔργων κατάπονον λατρείαν, στρεβλωθέντας δὲ ταῖς παρηγγελμέναις αἰκίαις τὸ τέλος ἀφανίσαι μιᾶς ὑπὸ καιρὸν ἡμέρας. Ἐγένετο μὲν οὖν ἡ τούτων ἀπογραφὴ 15 μετὰ πικρᾶς σπουδῆς καὶ φιλοτίμου προσεδρίας ἀπὸ ἀνατολῶν ἡλίου μέχρι δυσμῶν, ἀνήνυτον λαμβάνουσα τὸ τέλος ἐπὶ ἡμέρας τεσσαράκοντα.

Μεγάλως δὲ καὶ διηνεκῶς ὁ βασιλεὺς χαρᾷ πεπληρωμένος, 16 συμπόσια ἐπὶ πάντων τῶν εἰδώλων συνιστάμενος, πεπλανημένη, πόρρῳ τῆς ἀληθείας φρενὶ καὶ βεβήλῳ στόματι, τὰ μὲν κωφὰ καὶ μὴ δυνάμενα αὐτοῖς λαλεῖν ἢ ἀρῆγειν, ἐπαινῶν, εἰς δὲ τὸν μέγιστον Θεὸν τὰ μὴ καθήκοντα λαλῶν.

Μετὰ δὲ τὸ προειρημένον τοῦ χρόνου διάστημα προσηνέγ- 17 канτο οἱ γραμματεῖς τῷ βασιλεῖ, μηκέτι ἰσχύειν τὴν τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἀπογραφὴν ποιεῖσθαι διὰ τὴν ἀμέτρητον αὐτῶν πληθύν, καὶ περ ὄντων κατὰ τὴν χώραν ἔτι τῶν πλειόνων, τῶν 18 μὲν κατὰ τὰς οἰκίας ἔτι συνεστηκότων, τῶν δὲ καὶ κατὰ τόπον, ὡς ἀδυνάτου καθεστῶτος πᾶσι τοῖς ἐπ' Αἴγυπτον στρατηγοῖς, ἀπειλήσαντος δὲ αὐτοῖς σκληρότερον ὡς δέδωροκοπημένοις εἰς 19 μηχανὴν τῆς ἐκφυγῆς, συνέβη σαφῶς αὐτὸν περὶ τούτου πεισθῆναι, λεγόντων μετὰ ἀποδείξεως, καὶ τὴν χαρτηρίαν ἤδη 20 καὶ τοὺς γραφικοὺς καλάμους ἐν οἷς ἐχρῶντο ἐκλελοιπέναι. Τοῦτο δὲ ἦν ἐνέργεια τῆς τοῦ βοηθοῦντος τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις ἐξ 21 οὐρανοῦ προνοίας ἀνικήτου.

- 5 Τότε προσκαλεσάμενος Ἑρμῶνα τὸν πρὸς τῇ τῶν ἐλεφάντων ἐπιμελείᾳ, βαρεῖα μεμεστωμένος ὀργῇ καὶ χόλῳ κατὰ πᾶν
2 ἀμετάθετος, ἐκέλευσεν ὑπὸ τὴν ἐπερχομένην ἡμέραν δαψιλέσι δράκεσι λιβανωτοῦ καὶ οἴνῳ πλείονι ἀκράτῳ ἅπαντας τοὺς ἐλέφαντας ποτίσαι, ὄντας τὸν ἀριθμὸν πεντακοσίους, καὶ ἀγριω-
3 θέντας τῇ τοῦ πόματος ἀφθόνῳ χορηγίᾳ, εἰσαγαγεῖν πρὸς συνάντησιν τοῦ μόρου τῶν Ἰουδαίων. Ὁ μὲν τὰδε προστάσ-
σων, ἐτρέπετο πρὸς τὴν εὐωχίαν, συναγαγὼν τοὺς μάλιστα τῶν φίλων καὶ τῆς στρατιᾶς ἀπεχθῶς ἔχοντας πρὸς τοὺς Ἰουδαίους.
4 Ὁ δὲ ἐλεφαντάρχης τὸ προσταγὴν ἀραρότως Ἑρμῶν συν-
5 ἐτέλει. Οἳ τε πρὸς τούτοις λειτουργοὶ κατὰ τὴν ἐσπέραν ἐξιόντες τὰς τῶν τλαιπύρων ἐδέσμευον χεῖρας, τὴν τε λοιπὴν ἐμχανῶντο περὶ αὐτοὺς ἀσφάλειαν, ἐννυχον δόξαντες ὁμοῦ λήψεσθαι τὸ φύλον πέρας τῆς ὀλεθρίας.
6 Οἱ δὲ πάσης σκέπης ἔρημοι δοκοῦντες εἶναι τοῖς ἔθνεσιν Ἰουδαῖοι, διὰ τὴν πάντοθεν περιέχουσαν αὐτοὺς μετὰ δεσμῶν
7 ἀνάγκην, τὸν παντοκράτορα Κύριον καὶ πάσης δυνάμεως δυναστεύοντα, ἐλεήμονα Θεὸν αὐτῶν καὶ πατέρα, δυσκαταπαύστῳ
8 βοῇ πάντες μετὰ δακρύων ἐπεκαλέσαντο δεόμενοι, τὴν κατ' αὐτῶν μεταστρέψαι βουλὴν ἀνοσίαν, καὶ ῥύσασθαι αὐτοὺς μετὰ μεγαλομεροῦς ἐπιφανείας ἐκ τοῦ παρὰ πόδας ἐν ἐτοίμῳ μόρου.
9 Τούτων μὲν οὖν ἐκτενῶς ἡ λιτανεία ἀνέβαινεν εἰς οὐρανόν.
10 Ὁ δὲ Ἑρμῶν τοὺς ἀνηλεεῖς ἐλέφαντας ποτίσας πεπληρωμέ-
νους τῆς τοῦ οἴνου πολλῆς χορηγίας, καὶ τοῦ λιβάνου μεμεστω-
μένους, ὄρθριος ἐπὶ τὴν αὐλὴν παρῆν περὶ τούτων προσαγγεῖλαι
11 τῷ βασιλεῖ. Τοῦτο δ' ἀπ' αἰῶνος χρόνου κτίσμα καλὸν ἐν νυκτὶ καὶ ἡμέρᾳ ἐπιβαλλόμενον ὑπὸ τοῦ χαριζομένου πᾶσιν οἷς ἂν αὐτὸς θελήσῃ, ὕπνου μέρος ἀπέστειλε πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα.
12 Καὶ ἡδίστῳ καὶ βαθεῖ κατεσχέθη τῇ ἐνεργείᾳ τοῦ Δεσπότου, τῆς ἀθέσμου μὲν προθέσεως πολὺ διεσφαλμένος, τοῦ δὲ ἀμεταθέτου λογισμοῦ μέγας διεψευσμένος.
13 Οἱ δὲ Ἰουδαῖοι τὴν προσημανθείσαν ὥραν διαφυγόντες, τὸν ἅγιον ἦνουν Θεὸν αὐτῶν· καὶ πάλιν ἡξίουσαν τὸν εὐκατάλλακτον, δεῖξαι τῆς μεγαλοσθενοῦς αὐτοῦ χειρὸς κράτος ἔθνεσιν ὑπερη-
14 φάνοις. Μεσούσης δὲ ἡδὴ τῆς δεκάτης ὥρας σχεδὸν, ὁ πρὸς ταῖς κλήσεσι τεταγμένος, ἀθρόους τοὺς κλητοὺς ἰδὼν, ἐνύξε
15 προσελθὼν τὸν βασιλέα. Καὶ μόλις διεγείρας, ὑπέδειξε τὸν τῆς συμποσίας καιρὸν ἡδὴ παρατρέχοντα, τὸν περὶ τούτων λόγον ποιούμενος.
16 Ὃν ὁ βασιλεὺς λογισάμενος, καὶ τραπεῖς εἰς τὸν πότον, ἐκέλευσε τοὺς παραγεγονότας εἰς τὴν συμποσίαν ἀντικρυς ἀνα-
17 κλιθῆναι αὐτοῦ. Οὗ καὶ γενομένου, παρῆναι εἰς εὐωχίαν δόντας ἑαυτοὺς, τὸ παρὸν τῆς συμποσίας ἐπιπολὺ γεραιρομένους εἰς
18 εὐφροσύνην καταθέσθαι μέρος. Ἐπιπλεῖον δὲ προβαινούσης τῆς ὁμιλίας, τὸν Ἑρμῶνα μεταπεμψάμενος ὁ βασιλεὺς, μετὰ πικρὰς ἀπειλῆς ἐπυνθάνετο, τίνος ἕνεκεν αἰτίας εἰάθησαν οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι
19 τὴν παροῦσαν ἡμέραν περιβεβιωκότες. Τοῦ δὲ ὑποδείξαντος νυκτὸς τὸ προσταγὴν ἐπὶ τέλος ἡγηοχέαι, καὶ τῶν φίλων αὐτῷ
20 προσμαρτυρησάντων, τὴν ὁμότητα χεῖρονα Φαλάριδος ἐσχηκὼς ἔφη, τῷ τῆς σήμερον ὕπνῳ χάριν ἔχειν αὐτούς· ἀνυπερθέτως δὲ εἰς τὴν ἐπιτέλλουσαν ἡμέραν κατὰ τὸ ὅμοιον ἐτοίμασον τοὺς ἐλέφαντας ἐπὶ τὸν τῶν ἀθεμίτων Ἰουδαίων ἀφανισμόν.

Then he called Hermon, who had charge of the elephants. Full of rage, altogether fixed in his furious design, ² he commanded him, with a quantity of unmixed wine and handfuls of incense [infused] to drug the elephants early on the following day. These five hundred elephants were, when infuriated by the copious draughts of frankincense, to be led up to the execution of death upon the Jews. ³ The king, after issuing these orders, went to his feasting, and gathered together all those of his friends and of the army who hated the Jews the most.

⁴ The master of the elephants, Hermon, fulfilled his commission punctually. ⁵ The underlings appointed for the purpose went out about eventide and bound the hands of the miserable victims, and took other precautions for their security at night, thinking that the whole race would perish together.

⁶ The heathen believed the Jews to be destitute of all protection; for chains fettered them about. ⁷ They invoked the Almighty Lord, and ceaselessly besought with tears their merciful God and Father, Ruler of all, Lord of every power, ⁸ to overthrow the evil purpose which was gone out against them, and to deliver them by extraordinary manifestation from that death which was in store for them. ⁹ Their litany so earnest went up to heaven.

¹⁰ Then Hermon, who had filled his merciless elephants with copious draughts of mingled wine and frankincense, came early to the palace to certify the king thereof. ¹¹ He, however, who has sent his good creature sleep from all time, by night or by day thus gratifying whom he wills, diffused a portion thereof [now] upon the king. ¹² By this sweet and profound influence of the Lord he was held fast, and thus his unjust purpose was quite frustrated, and his unfinished resolve greatly falsified.

¹³ But the Jews, having escaped the hour which had been fixed, praised their holy God, and again prayed him who is easily reconciled to display the power of his powerful hand to the overweening Gentiles. ¹⁴ The middle of the tenth hour had well nigh arrived, when the master-bidder, seeing the guests who were bidden collected, came and shook the king. ¹⁵ He gained his attention with difficulty, and hinting that the meal-time was getting past, talked the matter over with him.

¹⁶ The king listened to this, and then turning aside to his potations, commanded the guests to sit down before him. ¹⁷ This done, he asked them to enjoy themselves, and to indulge in mirth at this somewhat late hour of the banquet. ¹⁸ Conversation grew on, and the king sent for Hermon, and enquired of him, with fierce denunciations, why the Jews had been allowed to outlive that day. ¹⁹ Hermon explained that he had done his bidding over night; and in this he was confirmed by his friends. ²⁰ The king, then, with a barbarity exceeding that of Phalaris, said, That they might thank his sleep of that day. Lose no time, and get ready the elephants against to-morrow, as you did before, for the destruction of these accursed Jews.

²¹ When the king said this, the company present were glad, and approved; and then each man went to his own home. ²² Nor did they employ the night in sleep, so much as in contriving cruel mockeries for those deemed miserable.

²³ The morning cock had just crowed, and Hermon, having harnessed the brutes, was stimulating them in the great colonnade. ²⁴ The city crowds were collected together to see the hideous spectacle, and waited impatiently for the dawn. ²⁵ The Jews, breathless with momentary suspense, stretched forth their hands, and prayed the Greatest God, in mournful strains, again to help them speedily.

²⁶ The sun's rays were not yet shed abroad, and the king was waiting for his friends, when Hermon came to him, calling him out, and saying, That his desires could now be realized. ²⁷ The king, receiving him, was astonished at his unwonted exit; and, overwhelmed with a spirit of oblivion about everything, enquired the object of this earnest preparation. ²⁸ But this was the working of that Almighty God who had made him forget all his purpose.

²⁹ Hermon, and all his friends, pointed out the preparation of the animals. They are ready, O king, according to your own strict injunction. ³⁰ The king was filled with fierce anger at these words; for, by the Providence of God regarding these things, his mind had become entirely confused. He looked hard at Hermon, and threatened him as follows: ³¹ Your parents, or your children, were they here, to these wild beasts a large repast they should have furnished; not these innocent Jews, who me and my forefathers loyally have served. ³² Had it not been for familiar friendship, and the claims of your office, your life should have gone for theirs.

³³ Hermon, being threatened in this unexpected and alarming manner, was troubled in visage, and depressed in countenance. ³⁴ The friends, too, stole out one by one, and dismissed the assembled multitudes to their occupations. ³⁵ The Jews, having heard of these events, praised the glorious God and King of kings, because they had obtained this help, too, from him.

³⁶ Now the king arranged another banquet after the same manner, and proclaimed an invitation to mirth. ³⁷ And he summoned Hermon to his presence, and said, with threats, How often, O wretch, must I repeat my orders to thee about these same persons? ³⁸ Once more, arm the elephants against the morrow for the extermination of the Jews.

³⁹ His kinsmen, who were reclining with him, wondered at his instability, and thus expressed themselves: ⁴⁰ O king, how long dost thou make trial of us, as of men bereft of reason? This is the third time that thou hast ordered their destruction. When the thing is to be done, thou changest thy mind, and recallest thy instructions. ⁴¹ For this cause the feeling of expectation causes tumult in the city: it swarms with factions; and is continually on the point of being plundered.

⁴² The king, just like another Phalaris, a prey to thoughtlessness, made no account of the changes which his own mind had

Εἰπόντος δὲ τοῦ βασιλέως, ἀσμένως πάντες μετὰ χαρᾶς οἱ 21 παρόντες ὁμοῦ συναινέσαντες, εἰς τὸν ἴδιον οἶκον ἕκαστος ἀνέ- λυσε. Καὶ οὐχ οὕτως εἰς ὕπνον κατεχρήσαντο τὸν χρόνον τῆς 22 νυκτὸς, ὥς εἰς τὸ παντοίους μηχανᾶσθαι τοῖς τάλαιπύροις δοκοῦσιν ἐμπαιγμούς.

Ἄρτι δὲ ἀλεκτρυνὼν ἐκεκράγει ὄρθριος, καὶ τὰ θηρία καθ- 23 ὥπλικώς ὁ Ἑρμων ἐν τῷ μεγάλῳ περιστύλῳ διεκίνει. Τὰ δὲ 24 κατὰ τὴν πόλιν πλήθη συνήθροιστο πρὸς τὴν οἰκτροτάτην θεωρίαν, προσδοκῶντα τὴν πρωΐαν μετὰ σπουδῆς. Οἱ δὲ Ἰου- 25 δαῖοι κατὰ τὸν ἡμερῆ ψυχουλκούμενοι χρόνον, πολυδάκρυνον ἱκετείαν ἐν μέλεσι γοεροῖς τείνοντες τὰς χεῖρας εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν, ἐδέοντο τοῦ μεγίστου Θεοῦ, πάλιν αὐτοῖς βοηθῆσαι συντόμως.

Οὕτω δὲ ἡλίου βολαὶ κατεσπείροντο, καὶ τοῦ βασιλέως τοὺς 26 φίλους ἐκδεχομένου, ὁ Ἑρμων παραστὰς, ἐκάλει πρὸς τὴν ἐξοδον, ὑποδεικνύων τὸ πρόθυμον τοῦ βασιλέως ἐν ἐτοιμῇ κείσθαι. Τοῦ δὲ ἀποδεξαμένου καὶ καταπλαγέντος ἐπὶ τῇ 27 παρανόμῳ ἐξόδῳ, κατὰ πᾶν ἀγνωσίᾳ κεκρατημένος ἐπυνθάνετο, τί τὸ πρᾶγμα ἐφ' οὗ τοῦτο αὐτῷ μετὰ σπουδῆς τετέλεσται. Τοῦτο δὲ ἦν ἡ ἐνέργεια τοῦ πάντα δεσποτεύοντος Θεοῦ, τῶν 28 πρὶν αὐτῷ μεμηχανημένων λήθην κατὰ διάνοιαν ἐντεθεικότος.

Ὁ δὲ Ἑρμων ὑπεδείκνυε καὶ πάντες οἱ φίλοι, τὰ θηρία καὶ 29 τὰς δυνάμεις ἡτοιμάσθαι, βασιλεῦ, κατὰ τὴν σὴν ἐκτενῆ πρό- θεσιν. Ὁ δὲ ἐπὶ τοῖς ῥηθείσι πληρωθεὶς βαρεῖ χόλῳ, διὰ τὸ περὶ 30 τούτων προνοίᾳ Θεοῦ διεσκεδᾶσθαι πᾶν αὐτοῦ τὸ νόημα, ἐν- ατενίσας μετὰ ἀπειλῆς εἶπεν, εἴ σοι γονεῖς παρήσαν ἢ παῖδων 31 γοναὶ, τήνδε θηρσὶν ἀγρίοις ἐσκεύασαν ἂν δαψιλῇ θοΐαν, ἀντὶ τῶν ἀνεγκλήτων ἐμοὶ καὶ προγόνοις ἐμοῖς ἀποδεδειγμένων ὀλοσχερῇ βεβαίαν πίστιν ἐξόχως, Ἰουδαίων. Καὶ περ εἰ μὴ 32 διὰ τὴν τῆς συντροφίας στοργὴν καὶ τῆς χρείας, τὸ ζῆν ἀντὶ τούτων ἐστερήθης.

Οὕτως ὁ Ἑρμων ἀπροσδόκητον καὶ ἐπικίνδυνον ὑπήνεγκεν 33 ἀπειλήν, καὶ τῇ ὁράσει καὶ τῷ προσώπῳ συνεστάλη. Ὁ καθὲς 34 δὲ τῶν φίλων σκυθρωπῶς ὑπεκρέων, τοὺς συνηθροισμένους ἀπέλυσαν ἕκαστον ἐπὶ τὴν ἰδίαν ἀσχολίαν. Οἱ τε Ἰουδαῖοι τὰ 35 παρὰ τοῦ βασιλέως ἀκούσαντες, τὸν ἐπιφανῆ Θεὸν καὶ βασι- λεὰ τῶν βασιλέων ἤνουν, καὶ τῇσδε τῆς βοηθείας αὐτοῦ τετευ- χότες.

Κατὰ δὲ τούτους τοὺς νόμους ὁ βασιλεὺς συστησάμενος 36 πάλιν τὸ συμπόσιον, εἰς εὐφροσύνην τραπῆναι παρεκάλει. Τὸν δὲ Ἑρμωνα προσκαλεσάμενος μετὰ ἀπειλῆς εἶπε, ποσάκις 37 σοι δεῖ περὶ τούτων αὐτῶν προστάττειν, ἀθλιώτατε; Τοὺς 38 ἐλέφαντας ἔτι καὶ νῦν καθόπλισον εἰς τὴν αὔριον ἐπὶ τὸν τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἀφανισμόν.

Οἱ δὲ συνανακείμενοι συγγενεῖς τὴν ἄσφατον διάνοιαν αὐτοῦ 39 θαυμάζοντες, προσέφεροντο τάδε, βασιλεῦ, μέχρι τίνος ὡς ἀλό- 40 γους ἡμᾶς διαπειράζεις, προστάσων ἤδη τρίτον αὐτοὺς ἀφανί- σαι, καὶ πάλιν ἐπὶ τῶν πραγμάτων ἐκ μεταβολῆς ἀναλύνων τὰ σοὶ δεδογμένα; Ὡν χάριν ἡ πόλις διὰ τὴν προσδοκίαν ὀχλεῖ 41 καὶ πληθύνουσα συστροφαῖς, ἤδη καὶ κινδυνεύει πολλάκις διαρπα- σθῆναι.

Ὅθεν ὁ κατὰ πάντα Φάλαρις βασιλεὺς ἐμπληθυνθεὶς ἀλο- 42 γιστίας, καὶ τὰς γινομένας πρὸς ἐπισκοπὴν τῶν Ἰουδαίων ἐν

αὐτῷ μεταβολὰς τῆς ψυχῆς παρ' οὐδὲν ἡγούμενος, ἀτελέστατον ἐβεβαίωσεν ὄρκον, ὀρισάμενός τούτους μὲν ἀνυπερθέτως πέμψειν
 43 εἰς ἄδην, ἐν γόνασι καὶ ποσὶ θηρίων ἡκισμένους, ἐπιστρατεύσαντα δὲ ἐπὶ τὴν Ἰουδαίαν, ἰσόπεδον πυρὶ καὶ δόρατι θήσεσθαι διατάχους, καὶ τὸν ἄβατον αὐτῶν ἡμῖν ναὸν πυρὶ πρηνέα ἐν τάχει, καὶ τῶν συντελούντων ἐκεῖ θυσίας ἔρημον τὸν ἅπαντα χρόνον καταστήσειν.

44 Τότε περιχαρεῖς ἀναλύσαντες οἱ φίλοι καὶ συγγενεῖς, μετὰ πίστεως διέτασσον τὰς δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τοὺς εὐκαιροτάτους
 45 τόπους τῆς πόλεως πρὸς τήρησιν. Ὁ δὲ ἐλεφαντάρχης, τὰ θηρία σχεδὸν εἰπεῖν εἰς κατάστημα μανιῶδες ἀγροχῶς, εὐωδιστατοῖς πόμασιν οἴνου λελιβανωμένου φοβεραῖς κατεσκευασμένα σκευαῖς.

46 Περὶ τὴν ἑω, τῆς πόλεως ἥδη πλήθεσιν ἀναριθμήτοις κατὰ τοῦ ἵπποδρόμου καταμεμεστωμένης, εἰσελθὼν εἰς τὴν αὐλὴν,
 47 ἐπὶ τὸ προκείμενον ὥτρυνε τὸν βασιλέα. Ὁ δὲ ὀργῇ βαρεία γεμίσας δυσσεβῇ φρένα, παντὶ τῷ βάρει σὺν τοῖς θηρίοις ἐξώρμησε, βουλόμενος ἀτρώτῳ καρδίᾳ καὶ κόραις ὀφθαλμῶν θεάσασθαι τὴν ἐπίπονον καὶ ταλαίπωρον τῶν προσεσημαμένων καταστροφὴν.

48 Ὡς δὲ τῶν ἐλεφάντων ἐξιόντων περὶ πύλην, καὶ τῆς συνεπομένης ἐνόπλου δυνάμεως, τῆς τε τοῦ πλήθους πορείας κονιορτὸν
 49 ἰδόντες, καὶ βαρυνχῇ θόρυβον ἀκούσαντες οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, ὑστάτην βίου ῥοπὴν αὐτοῖς ἐκείνην δόξαντες εἶναι τὸ τέλος τῆς ἀθλιωτάτης προσδοκίας, εἰς οἶκτον καὶ γόους τραπέντες, κατεφίλουν ἀλλήλους περιπλεκόμενοι τοῖς συγγενέσιν ἐπὶ τοὺς τραχήλους ἐπιπίπτοντες, γονεῖς παισὶ καὶ μητέρες νεάνισιν, ἕτεραι δὲ νεογνὰ πρὸς μαστοὺς ἔχουσιν βρέφη τελευταῖον ἔλκοντα γάλα.

50 Οὐ μὴν δὲ ἀλλὰ καὶ τὰς ἔμπροσθεν αὐτῶν γεγενημένας ἀντιλήψεις ἐξ οὐρανοῦ συνιδόντες, πρηνεῖς ὁμοθυμαδὸν ῥύψαντες
 51 ἑαυτοὺς καὶ τὰ νήπια χωρίσαντες τῶν μαστῶν, ἀνεβόησαν φωνῇ μεγάλη σφόδρα, τὸν τῆς ἀπάσης δυνάμεως δυνάστην ἱκετεύοντες, οἰκτεῖραι μετὰ ἐπιφανείας αὐτοὺς ἦδη πρὸς πύλαις ἄδου καθεστῶτας.

6 Ἐλεαζάρος δὲ τις ἀνὴρ ἐπίσημος τῶν ἀπὸ τῆς χώρας ἱερέων, ἐν πρεσβείῳ τὴν ἡλικίαν ἦδη λελογχῶς, καὶ πάσῃ τῇ κατὰ τὸν βίον ἀρετῇ κεκοσμημένος, τοὺς περὶ αὐτὸν καταστείλας πρεσβυτέρους ἐπικαλεῖσθαι τὸν ἅγιον Θεὸν προσηύξατο τάδε·

2 Βασιλεῦ μεγαλοκράτωρ, ὕψιστε, παντοκράτωρ Θεέ, τὴν
 3 πᾶσαν διακυβερνῶν ἐν οἰκτιρμοῖς κτίσιν, ἐπίδε ἐπὶ Ἀβραὰμ σπέρμα, ἐπὶ ἡγιασμένου τέκνα Ἰακώβ, μερίδος ἡγιασμένης σου λαὸν ἐν ξένῃ γῇ ξένον ἀδίκως ἀπολλύμενον, πάτερ.

4 Σὺ Φαραὼ πληθύνοντα ἄρμασι, τὸ πρὶν Αἰγύπτου ταύτης δυνάστην, ἐπαρθέντα ἀνόμῳ θράσει καὶ γλώσσει μεγαλοῤῥήμονι, σὺν τῇ ὑπερηφάνῳ στρατιᾷ παντοβρόχους ἀπώλεσας, φέγγος
 5 ἐπιφάνας ἐλέους Ἰσραὴλ γένει. Σὺ τὸν ἀναριθμήτοις δυνάμεσι γαυρωθέντα Σενναχηρεῖμ βαρὺν Ἀσσυρίων βασιλέα, δόρατι τὴν πᾶσαν ὑποχείριον ἦδη λαβόντα γῆν, καὶ μετεωρισθέντα ἐπὶ τὴν ἁγίαν σου πόλιν, βαρέα λαλῶντα κόμπῳ καὶ θράσει,

undergone, issuing in the deliverance of the Jews. He swore a fruitless oath, and determined forthwith to send them to hades, crushed by the knees and feet of the elephants. ⁴³ He would also invade Judea, and level its towns with fire and the sword; and destroy that temple which the heathen might not enter, and prevent sacrifices ever after being offered up there.

⁴⁴ Joyfully his friends broke up, together with his kinsmen; and, trusting in his determination, arranged their forces in guard at the most convenient places of the city. ⁴⁵ And the master of the elephants urged the beasts into an almost maniacal state, drenched them with incense and wine, and decked them with frightful instruments.

⁴⁶ About early morning, when the city was now filled with an immense number of people at the hippodrome, he entered the palace, and called the king to the business in hand. ⁴⁷ The king's heart teemed with impious rage; and he rushed forth with the mass, along with the elephants. With feelings unsoftened, and eyes pitiless, he longed to gaze at the hard and wretched doom of the above-mentioned Jews.

⁴⁸ But the Jews, when the elephants went out at the gate, followed by the armed force; and when they saw the dust raised by the throng, and heard the loud cries of the crowd, ⁴⁹ thought that they had come to the last moment of their lives, to the end of what they had tremblingly expected. They gave way, therefore, to lamentations and moans: they kissed each other: those nearest of kin to each other hung about one another's necks: fathers about their sons, mothers their daughters: other women held their infants to their breasts, which drew what seemed their last milk.

⁵⁰ Nevertheless, when they reflected upon the succour before granted them from heaven, they prostrated themselves with one accord; removed even the sucking children from the breast, and ⁵¹ sent up an exceeding great cry, entreating the Lord of all power to reveal himself, and have mercy upon those who now lay at the gates of hades.

And Eleazar, an illustrious priest of the country, who had attained to length of days, and whose life had been adorned with virtue, caused the presbyters who were about him to cease to cry out to the holy God, and prayed thus:

² O King, mighty in power, most high, Almighty God, who regulatest the whole creation with thy tender mercy, ³ look upon the seed of Abraham, upon the children of the sanctified Jacob, thy sanctified inheritance, O Father, now being wrongfully destroyed as strangers in a strange land.

⁴ Thou destroyedst Pharaoh, with his host of chariots, when that lord of this same Egypt was uplifted with lawless hardihood and loud-sounding tongue. Shedding the beams of thy mercy upon the race of Israel, thou didst overwhelm him with his proud army. ⁵ When Sennacherim, the grievous king of the Assyrians, glorying in his countless hosts, had subdued the whole land with his spear, and was lifting himself against thy holy city, with boastings grievous to be endured, thou, O Lord, didst demolish him;

and didst shew forth thy might to many nations. ⁶ When the three friends in the land of Babylon of their own will exposed their lives to the fire rather than serve vain things, thou didst send a dewy coolness through the fiery furnace, and bring the fire upon all their adversaries. ⁷ It was thou who, when Daniel was hurled, through slander and envy, as a prey to lions down below, didst bring him back again unhurt to light. ⁸ When Jonah was pining away in the belly of the sea-bred monster, thou didst look upon him, O Father, and recover him to the sight of his own.

⁹ And now, thou who hatest insolence; thou who dost abound in mercy; thou who art the protector of all things; appear quickly to those of the race of Israel, who are insulted by abhorred, lawless Gentiles. ¹⁰ If our life has during our exile been stained with iniquity, deliver us from the hand of the enemy, and destroy us, O Lord, by the death which thou preferrest.

¹¹ Let not the vain-minded congratulate vain idols at the destruction of thy beloved, saying, Neither did their God deliver them.

¹² Thou who art All-powerful and Almighty, O Eternal One, behold! have mercy upon us who are being withdrawn from life, like traitors, by the unreasoning insolence of lawless men. ¹³ Let the heathen cower before thy invincible might to-day, O glorious One, who hast all power to save the race of Jacob. ¹⁴ The whole band of infants and their parents with tears beseech thee. ¹⁵ Let it be shewn to all the nations that thou art with us, O Lord, and hast not turned thy face away from us; but as thou saidst that thou wouldst not forget them even in the land of their enemies, so do thou fulfil this saying, O Lord.

¹⁶ Now, at the time that Eleazar had ended his prayer, the king came along to the hippodrome, with the wild beasts, and with his tumultuous power. ¹⁷ When the Jews saw this, they uttered a loud cry to heaven, so that the adjacent valleys resounded, and caused an irrepressible lamentation throughout the army.

¹⁸ Then the all-glorious, all-powerful, and true God, displayed his holy countenance, and opened the gates of heaven, from which two angels, dreadful of form, came down, and were visible to all but the Jews. ¹⁹ And they stood opposite, and filled the enemies' host with confusion and cowardice; and bound them with immoveable fetters. ²⁰ And a cold shudder came over the person of the king, and oblivion paralysed the vehemence of his spirit. ²¹ They turned back the animals upon the armed forces which followed them; and the animals trod them down, and destroyed them.

²² The king's wrath was converted into compassion; and he wept at his own machinations. ²³ For when he heard the cry, and saw them all on the verge of destruction, with tears he angrily threatened his friends, saying, ²⁴ Ye have governed badly; and have exceeded tyrants in cruelty; and me your benefactor ye have laboured to deprive at once of my dominion and my life, by secretly devising measures injurious to the kingdom. ²⁵ Who has gathered here, unreasonably removing each from his home, those who, in fidelity to us, had held the

Δέσποτα, ἔθραυσας, ἔκδηλον δεικνὺς ἔθνεσι πολλοῖς τὸ σὸν κράτος. Σὺ τοὺς κατὰ τὴν Βαβυλωνίαν τρεῖς ἐταίρους πυρὶ ⁶ τὴν ψυχὴν αὐθαιρέτως δεδωκότας εἰς τὸ μὴ λατρεῦσαι τοῖς κenoῖς, διάπυρον δροσίσας κάμινον, ἐρρύσω μέχρι τριχὸς ἀπημάντους, φλόγα πᾶσιν ἐπιπέμψας τοῖς ὑπεναντίοις. Σὺ τὸν ⁷ διαβολαῖς φθόνου λένουσι κατὰ γῆς ῥιφέντα θηρσὶ βορὰν Δανιὴλ εἰς φῶς ἀνήγαγες ἀσινῇ. Τόν τε βυθοτρεφοῦς ἐν ⁸ γαστρὶ κήτους Ἰωνὰν τηκόμενον ἀφειδῶς, ἀπήμαντον πᾶσιν οἰκείοις ἀνέδειξας, πᾶτερ.

Καὶ νῦν μισύβρι, πολυέλεε, τῶν ὅλων σκεπαστὰ, τὸ τάχος ⁹ ἐπιφάνηθι τοῖς ἀπὸ Ἰσραὴλ γένους, ὑπὸ δὲ ἐβδελυγμένων ἀνόμων ἐθνῶν ὑβριζομένοις. Εἰ δὲ ἀσεβείαις κατὰ τὴν ἀπ- ¹⁰ οικίαν ὁ βίος ἡμῶν ἐνέσχηται, ῥυσάμενος ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ ἐχθρῶν χειρὸς, ὡς προαιρῇ, Δέσποτα, ἀπόλεσον ἡμᾶς μόρφ.

Μὴ τοῖς ματαιοῖς οἱ ματαιόφρονες εὐλογησάτωσαν ἐπὶ τῇ ¹¹ τῶν ἡγαπημένων σου ἀπωλείᾳ, λέγοντες, οὐδὲ ὁ Θεὸς αὐτῶν ἐρρύσατο αὐτούς. Σὺ δὲ ὁ πᾶσαν ἀλκὴν καὶ δυναστείαν ἔχων ¹² ἅπασαν, αἰώνιε, νῦν ἐπιδε· ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς τοὺς καθ' ὕβριν ἀνόμων ἀλόγιστον ἐκ τοῦ ζῆν μεθιστανομένους ἐν ἐπιβούλων τρόπῳ. Πτηξάτω δὲ ἔθνη σὴν δύναμιν ἀνίκητον σήμερον, ¹³ ἔντιμ, δύναμιν ἔχων, ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ Ἰακώβ γένους. Ἰκετεύει ¹⁴ σε τὸ πᾶν πλῆθος τῶν νηπίων καὶ οἱ τούτων γονεῖς μετὰ δακρύων. Δειχθήτω πᾶσιν ἔθνεσιν ὅτι μεθ' ἡμῶν εἰ Κύριε, καὶ ¹⁵ οὐκ ἀπέστρεψας τὸ πρόσωπόν σου ἀφ' ἡμῶν· ἀλλὰ καθὼς εἶπας, ὅτι οὐδ' ἐν τῇ γῇ τῶν ἐχθρῶν αὐτῶν ὄντων ὑπερείδες αὐτούς, οὕτως ἐπιτέλεσον, Κύριε.

Τοῦ δὲ Ἑλεαζάρου λήγοντος ἄρτι τῆς προσευχῆς, ὁ βασι- ¹⁶ λεὺς σὺν τοῖς θηρίοις καὶ παντὶ τῷ τῆς δυνάμεως φρυάγματι κατὰ τὸν ἵπποδρομον παρήγε. Καὶ θεωρήσαντες οἱ Ἰουδαῖοι, ¹⁷ μέγα εἰς οὐρανὸν ἀνέκραξαν, ὥστε καὶ τοὺς παρακειμένους αὐλῶνας συνηχήσαντας, ἀκατάσχετον οἰμωγὴν ποιῆσαι παντὶ τῷ στρατοπέδῳ.

Τότε ὁ μεγαλόδοξος παντοκράτωρ καὶ ἀληθινὸς Θεὸς, ἐπι- ¹⁸ φάνας τὸ ἅγιον αὐτοῦ πρόσωπον, ἠνέωξε τὰς οὐρανίους πύλας, ἐξ ὧν δεδοξασμένοι δύο φοβεροειδεῖς ἄγγελοι κατέβησαν φανοροὶ πᾶσι πλὴν τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις, καὶ ἀντέστησαν, καὶ τὴν ¹⁹ δύναμιν τῶν ὑπεναντίων ἐπλήρωσαν ταραχῆς καὶ δειλίας, καὶ ἀκινήτοις ἔδησαν πέδαις. Καὶ ὑπόφρικον καὶ τὸ τοῦ βασι- ²⁰ λέως σῶμα ἐγενήθη, καὶ λήθη τὸ θράσος αὐτοῦ τὸ βαρύθυμον ἔλαβε. Καὶ ἀπέστρεψαν τὰ θηρία ἐπὶ τὰς συνεπομένας ἐνόπ- ²¹ λους δυνάμεις, καὶ κατεπάτουν αὐτὰς καὶ ὠλόθρευον.

Καὶ μετεστράφη τοῦ βασιλέως ἡ ὀργὴ εἰς οἶκτον καὶ δάκρυα ²² ὑπὲρ τῶν ἐμπροσθεν αὐτῷ μεμηχανημένων. Ἀκούσας γὰρ ²³ τῆς κραυγῆς, καὶ συνιδὼν πρηνεῖς ἅπαντας εἰς τὴν ἀπώλειαν, δακρύσας μετὰ ὀργῆς τοῖς φίλοις διηπειλεῖτο, λέγων, Παραβασιλεύετε, καὶ τυράννους ὑπερβεβήκατε ὡμότητι· καὶ ²⁴ ἐμὲ αὐτὸν τὸν ὑμῶν εὐεργέτην ἐπιχειρεῖτε τῆς ἀρχῆς ἡδὴ καὶ τοῦ πνεύματος μεθιστᾶν, λάθρα μηχανώμενοι τὰ μὴ συμ- ²⁵ φέροντα τῇ βασιλείᾳ. Τίς τοὺς κρατήσαντας ἡμῶν ἐν πίστει ²⁵ τὰ τῆς χώρας ὀχυρώματα, τῆς οἰκίας ἀποστήσας ἔκαστον

- 26 ἀλόγως ἤθροισεν ἐνθάδε; Τίς τοὺς ἐξαρχῆς εὐνοία πρὸς ἡμᾶς κατὰ πάντα διαφέροντας πάντων ἐθνῶν, καὶ τοὺς χειρίστους πλεονάκεις ἀνθρώπων ἐπιδεδεγμένους κινδύνους, οὕτως ἀθέσμοις περιέβαλεν αἰκίαις;
- 27 Λύσατε, ἐκλύσατε ἄδικα δεσμά· εἰς τὰ ἴδια μετ' εἰρήνης
- 28 ἔξαποστείλατε, τὰ προπεπραγμένα παραιτησάμενοι. Ἀπολύσατε τοὺς υἱοὺς τοῦ παντοκράτορος ἐπουρανίου Θεοῦ ζῶντος, ὃς ἀφ' ἡμετέρων μέχρι τοῦ νῦν προγόνων ἀπαράποδιστον μετὰ δόξης εὐστάθειαν παρέχει τοῖς ἡμετέροις πράγμασιν.
- 29 Ὁ μὲν οὖν ταῦτα ἔλεξεν· οἱ δὲ ἐν ἡμερεῖ χρόνῳ λυθέντες, τὸν ἅγιον σωτῆρα Θεὸν αὐτῶν εὐλόγουν, ἄρτι τὸν θάνατον
- 30 ἐκπεφευγότες. Εἶτα ὁ βασιλεὺς εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἀπαλλαγείς, τὸν ἐπὶ τῶν προσόδων προσκαλεσάμενος, ἐκέλευσεν οἶνους τε καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ πρὸς εὐωχίαν ἐπιτήδεια τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις χορηγεῖν ἐπὶ ἡμέρας ἑπτὰ, κρίνας αὐτοὺς ἐν ᾧ τόπῳ ἔδοξαν τὸν ὄλεθρον ἀναλαμβάνειν, ἐν τούτῳ ἐν εὐφροσύνῃ πάσῃ σωτήρια ἅγειν.
- 31 Τότε οἱ πρὶν ἐπονείδιστοι καὶ πλησίον τοῦ ᾄδου, μᾶλλον δ' ἐπ' αὐτῷ βεβηκότες, ἀντὶ πικροῦ καὶ δυσαιάκτου μόρου, κῶθωνα σωτήριον συστησάμενοι, τὸν εἰς πτώσιν αὐτοῖς καὶ τάφον ἡτοιμασμένον τόπον κλισίαις κατεμέρισαν πλήρεις
- 32 χαρμονῆς. Καταλήξαντες δὲ θρήνου πανόδурτον μέλος, ἀνέλαβον ᾠδὴν πάτριον, τὸν σωτῆρα καὶ τερατοποιὸν αἰνοῦντες Θεόν· οἰμωγὴν τε πᾶσαν καὶ κωκυτὸν ἀπώσάμενοι, χοροὺς συνίσταντο εὐφροσύνῃς εἰρηνικῆς σημείον.
- 33 Ὡσαύτως δὲ καὶ ὁ βασιλεὺς περὶ τούτων συμπόσιον βαρὺ συναγαγὼν, ἀδιαλείπτως εἰς οὐρανὸν ἀνθωμολογεῖτο μεγαλο-
- 34 μερῶς ἐπὶ τῇ παραδόξῳ γεννηθείσῃ αὐτῷ σωτηρίᾳ. Οἳ τε πρὶν εἰς ὄλεθρον καὶ οἰωνοβρώτους αὐτοὺς ἔσσεσθαι τιθέμενοι, μετὰ χαρᾶς ἀπογραφάμενοι, κατεστέναξαν, αἰσχύνῃ ἐφ' ἑαυτοῖς περιβαλλόμενοι, καὶ τὴν πυρίπουν τόλμαν ἀκλέως ἐσβεσμένοι.
- 35 Οἳ τε Ἰουδαῖοι, καθὼς προειρήκαμεν, συστησάμενοι τὸν προειρημένον χορὸν, μετ' εὐωχίας ἐν ἐξομολογήσειν ἱλαραῖς
- 36 καὶ ψαλμοῖς διῆγον, καὶ κοινὸν ὀρισάμενοι περὶ τούτων θεσμὸν ἐπὶ πᾶσαν τὴν παροικίαν αὐτῶν εἰς γενεὰς, τὰς προειρημένας ἡμέρας ἅγειν ἔστησαν εὐφροσύνους, οὐ πότου χάριν καὶ
- 37 λιχνείας, σωτηρίας δὲ τῆς διὰ Θεὸν γενομένης αὐτοῖς. Ἐνέτυχον δὲ τῷ βασιλεῖ, τὴν ἀπόλυσιν αὐτῶν εἰς τὰ ἴδια αἰτούμενοι.
- 38 Ἀπογράφονται δὲ αὐτοὺς ἀπὸ πέμπτῃς καὶ εἰκάδος τοῦ Παχῶν ἕως τῆς τετάρτης τοῦ Ἐπιφί, ἐπὶ ἡμέρας τεσσαράκοντα· συνίστανται δὲ αὐτῶν τὴν ἀπώλειαν ἀπὸ πέμπτῃς τοῦ Ἐπιφί
- 39 ἕως ἐβδόμῃς, ἡμέραις τρισίν. Ἐν αἷς καὶ μεγαλοδόξως ἐπιφάνας τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ ὁ τῶν ὄλων δυνάστης, ἀπταίστους αὐτοὺς ἐρρύσατο ὁμοθυμαδόν.
- 40 Εὐωχοῦντο δὲ πάνθ' ὑπὸ τοῦ βασιλέως χορηγοῦμενοι μέχρι τῆς τεσσαρεσκαδεκάτης, ἐν ᾗ καὶ τὴν ἐντυχίαν ἐποιήσαντο
- 41 περὶ τῆς ἀπολύσεως αὐτῶν. Συναίνεσας τε αὐτοὺς ὁ βασιλεὺς, ἔγραψεν αὐτοῖς τὴν ὑπογεγραμμένην ἐπιστολὴν πρὸς τοὺς κατὰ πόλιν στρατηγούς μεγαλοψύχως τὴν ἐκτενίαν ἔχουσαν.
- 7 Βασιλεὺς Πτολεμαῖος ὁ Φιλοπάτωρ τοῖς κατ' Αἴγυπτον στρατηγοῖς καὶ πᾶσι τοῖς τεταγμένοις ἐπὶ πραγμάτων, χαίρειν
- 2 καὶ ἐρρῶσθαι. Ἐρρῶμεθα δὲ καὶ αὐτοὶ καὶ τὰ τέκνα ἡμῶν,

fortresses of the country? ²⁶ Who has thus consigned to unmerited punishments those who in good will towards us from the beginning have in all things surpassed all nations, and who often have engaged in the most dangerous undertakings?

²⁷ Loose, loose the unjust bonds; send them to their homes in peace, and deprecate what has been done. ²⁸ Release the sons of the almighty living God of heaven, who from our ancestors' times until now has granted a glorious and uninterrupted prosperity to our affairs.

²⁹ These things he said: and they, released the same moment, having now escaped death, praised God their holy Saviour. ³⁰ The king then departed to the city, and called his financier to him, and bade him provide a seven days' quantity of wine and other materials for feasting for the Jews. He decided that they should keep a glad-some festival of deliverance in the very place in which they expected to meet with their destruction.

³¹ Then they who were before despised and nigh unto hades, yea, rather advanced into it, partook of the cup of salvation, instead of a grievous and lamentable death. Full of exultation, they parted out the place intended for their fall and burial into banqueting booths. ³² Ceasing their miserable strain of woe, they took up the subject of their fatherland, hymning in praise God their wonder-working Saviour. All groans, all wailing, were laid aside: they formed dances in token of serene joy.

³³ So, also, the king collected a number of guests for the occasion, and returned unceasing thanks with much magnificence for the unexpected deliverance afforded him. ³⁴ Those who had marked them out as for death and for carrion, and had registered them with joy, howled aloud, and were clothed with shame, and had the fire of their rage ingloriously put out.

³⁵ But the Jews, as we just said, instituted a dance, and then gave themselves up to feasting, glad thanksgivings, and psalms.

³⁶ They made a public ordinance to commemorate these things for generations to come, as long as they should be sojourners. They thus established these days as days of mirth, not for the purpose of drinking or luxury, but because God had saved them. ³⁷ They requested the king to send them back to their homes.

³⁸ They were being enrolled from the twenty-fifth of Pachon to the fourth of Epiphi, a period of forty days: the measures taken for their destruction lasted from the fifth of Epiphi till the seventh, that is, three days. ³⁹ The Ruler over all did during this time manifest forth his mercy gloriously, and did deliver them all together unharmed.

⁴⁰ They feasted upon the king's provision up to the fourteenth day, and then asked to be sent away. ⁴¹ The king commended them, and wrote the subjoined letter, of magnanimous import for them, to the commanders of every city.

King Ptolemy Philopator to the commanders throughout Egypt, and to all who are set over affairs, joy and strength. ² We,

too, and our children are well; and God has directed our affairs as we wish.

³ Certain of our friends did of malice vehemently urge us to punish the Jews of our realm in a body, with the infliction of a monstrous punishment. ⁴ They pretended that our affairs would never be in a good state till this took place. Such, they said, was the hatred borne by the Jews to all other people. ⁵ They brought them fettered in grievous chains as slaves, nay, as traitors. Without enquiry or examination they endeavoured to annihilate them. They buckled themselves with a savage cruelty, worse than Scythian custom.

⁶ For this cause we severely threatened them; yet, with the clemency which we are wont to extend to all men, we at length permitted them to live. Finding that the God of heaven cast a shield of protection over the Jews so as to preserve them, and that he fought for them as a father always fights for his sons; ⁷ and taking into consideration their constancy and fidelity towards us and towards our ancestors, we have, as we ought, acquitted them of every sort of charge. ⁸ And we have dismissed them to their several homes; bidding all men everywhere to do them no wrong, or unrighteously revile them about the past. ⁹ For know ye, that should we conceive any evil design against, or in any manner aggrrieve them, we shall ever have as our opposite, not man, but the highest God, the ruler of all might. From Him there will be no escape, as the avenger of such deeds. Fare ye well.

¹⁰ When they had received this letter, they were not forward to depart immediately. They petitioned the king to be allowed to inflict fitting punishment upon those of their race who had willingly transgressed the holy God, and the law of God. ¹¹ They alleged that men who had for their bellies' sake transgressed the ordinances of God, would never be faithful to the interests of the king.

¹² The king admitted the truth of this reasoning, and commended them. Full power was given them, without warrant or special commission, to destroy those who had transgressed the law of God boldly in every part of the king's dominions. ¹³ Their priests, then, as it was meet, saluted him with good wishes, and all the people echoed with the Hallelujah. They then joyfully departed.

¹⁴ Then they punished and destroyed with ignominy every polluted Jew that fell in their way; ¹⁵ slaying thus, in that day, above three hundred men, and esteeming this destruction of the wicked a season of joy. ¹⁶ They themselves having held fast their God unto death, and having enjoyed a full deliverance, departed from the city garlanded with sweet-flowered wreaths of every kind. Uttering exclamations of joy, with songs of praise, and melodious hymns, they thanked the God of their fathers, the eternal Saviour of Israel.

¹⁷ Having arrived at Ptolemais, called from the specialty of that district Rose-bearing, where the fleet, in accordance with the general wish, waited for them seven days, ¹⁸ they partook of a banquet of deliver-

κατευθύναντος ἡμῖν τοῦ μεγάλου Θεοῦ τὰ πράγματα καθὼς προαιρούμεθα.

Τῶν φίλων τινὲς κακοθηεῖα πυκνότερον ἡμῖν παρακείμενοι, 3 συνέπεισαν ἡμᾶς εἰς τὸ τοὺς ὑπὸ τὴν βασιλείαν Ἰουδαίους, συναθροίσαντας σύστημα, κολάσασθαι ξενιζούσαις ἀποστατῶν τιμωρίαις, προσφερόμενοι μήποτε εὐσταθήσιν τὰ πράγματα 4 ἡμῶν, δι' ἣν ἔχουσιν οὗτοι πρὸς πάντα τὰ ἔθνη δυσμένειαν, μέχρις ἂν συντελεσθῇ τοῦτο. Οἱ καὶ δεσμίους καταγαγόντες 5 αὐτοὺς μετὰ σκυλμῶν ὡς ἀνδράποδα, μᾶλλον δὲ ὡς ἐπιβούλους, ἄνευ πάσης ἀνακρίσεως καὶ ἐξετάσεως ἐπεχείρησαν ἀνελεῖν, νόμου Σκυθῶν ἀγριωτέραν ἐμπεπορημένοι ὡμότητα.

Ἡμεῖς δὲ ἐπὶ τούτοις σκληρότερον διαπειλησάμενοι, καθ' 6 ἣν ἔχομεν πρὸς ἅπαντας ἀνθρώπους ἐπιείκειαν, μόγισ τὸ ζῆν αὐτοῖς χαρισάμενοι, καὶ τὸν ἐπουράνιον Θεὸν ἐγνωκότες ἀσφαλῶς ὑπερησπικότα τῶν Ἰουδαίων, ὡς πατέρα ὑπὲρ υἱῶν διαπαντὸς ὑπερμαχοῦντα, τὴν τε τοῦ φίλου ἣν ἔχουσι πρὸς ἡμᾶς 7 βεβαίαν καὶ τοὺς προγόνους ἡμῶν εὖνοϊαν ἀναλογισάμενοι, δικαίως ἀπολελύκαμεν πάσης καθ' ὄντιν οὖν αἰτίας τρόπον· καὶ 8 προστετάχαμεν ἐκάστῳ πάντας εἰς τὰ ἴδια ἐπιστρέφειν, ἐν παντὶ τόπῳ μηθενὸς αὐτοὺς τὸ σύνολον καταβλάπτοντος, μήτε ὀνειδίξειν περὶ τῶν γεγενημένων παρὰ λόγον. Γινώσκετε γὰρ ὅτι 9 κατὰ τούτων εἰάν τι κακοτεχνήσωμεν πονηρὸν, ἢ ἐπιλυπήσωμεν αὐτοὺς τὸ σύνολον, οὐκ ἄνθρωπον, ἀλλὰ τὸν πάσης δεσπύοντα δυνάμει Θεὸν ὕψιστον ἀντικείμενον ἡμῖν ἐπ' ἐκδικήσει τῶν πραγμάτων κατὰ πᾶν ἀφεύκτως διαπαντὸς ἔσομεν· ἔρρωσθε.

Λαβόντες δὲ τὴν ἐπιστολὴν ταύτην, οὐκ ἐσπούδασαν εὐθέως 10 γενέσθαι περὶ τὴν ἄφοδον, ἀλλὰ τὸν βασιλέα προσηξίωσαν τοὺς ἐκ τοῦ γένους τῶν Ἰουδαίων τὸν ἅγιον Θεὸν αὐθαιρέτως παραβεβηκότας καὶ τοῦ Θεοῦ τὸν νόμον, τυχεῖν δι' αὐτῶν τῆς ὀφειλομένης κολάσεως, προφερόμενοι τοὺς γαστροὺς ἕνεκεν τὰ 11 θεῖα παραβεβηκότας προστάγματα, μηδέποτε εὖνοήσιν μηδὲ τοῖς τοῦ βασιλέως πράγμασιν.

Ὁ δὲ τ' ἀληθὲς αὐτοὺς λέγειν παραδεξάμενος καὶ συναινέσας, 12 ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς ἄδειαν πάντων, ὅπως τοὺς παραβεβηκότας τοῦ Θεοῦ τὸν νόμον ἐξολοθρεύσωσι κατὰ πάντα τὸν ὑπὸ τὴν βασιλείαν αὐτοῦ τόπον μετὰ παρρησίας ἄνευ πάσης βασιλικῆς ἐξουσίας ἢ ἐπισκέψεως. Τότε κατευφημήσαντες αὐτὸν, ὡς 13 πρέπον ἦν, οἱ τούτων ἱερεῖς, καὶ πᾶν τὸ πλῆθος ἐπιφωνήσαντες τὸ ἀλληλουῖα, μετὰ χαρᾶς ἀνέλυσαν.

Τότε τὸν ἐμπεσόντα τῶν μεμιασμένων ὁμοεθνῇ κατὰ τὴν 14 ὁδὸν ἐκολάζοντο, καὶ μετὰ παραδειγματισμῶν ἀνήρουν. Ἐκείνῃ 15 δὲ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἀνείλον ὑπὲρ τοὺς τριακοσίους ἄνδρας, καὶ ἡγαγον εὐφροσύνην μετὰ χαρᾶς τοὺς βεβήλους χειρωσάμενοι. Αὐτοὶ 16 δὲ οἱ μέχρι θανάτου τὸν Θεὸν ἐσχηκότες, παντελῇ σωτηρίας ἀπόλαυσιν εἰληφότες; ἀνέζευξαν ἐκ τῆς πόλεως παντοίοις εὐδαιμονίοις ἄνθεσι κατεστεμμένοι μετ' εὐφροσύνης καὶ βοῆς, ἐν αἰνοῖς καὶ παμμέλεσιν ὕμνοις εὐχαριστοῦντες τῷ Θεῷ τῶν πατέρων αὐτῶν αἰωνίῳ σωτῇρι τοῦ Ἰσραὴλ.

Παραγενηθέντες δὲ εἰς Πτολεμαῖδα τὴν ὀνομαζομένην διὰ 17 τὴν τοῦ τόπου ιδιότητα ῥοδοφόρον, ἐν ἣ προσέμεινεν αὐτοὺς ὁ στόλος κατὰ κοινὴν αὐτῶν βουλὴν ἡμέρας ἑπτὰ, ἐκεῖ ἐποί- 18

- ἦσαν πότον σωτήριον, τοῦ βασιλέως χορηγήσαντος αὐτοῖς
 εὐψύχως τὰ πρὸς τὴν ἄφξιν πάντα ἐκάστω ἕως εἰς τὴν ἰδίαν
 19 οἰκίαν. Καταχθέντες δὲ μετ' εἰρήνης ἐν ταῖς πρεπούσαις
 ἐξομολογήσεσιν, ὡσαύτως καὶ ἐστησαν καὶ ταύτας ἄγειν τὰς
 20 ἡμέρας ἐπὶ τὸν τῆς παροικίας αὐτῶν χρόνον εὐφροσύνης. Ὡς
 καὶ ἀνιερῶσαντες ἐν στήλῃ κατὰ τὸν τῆς συμποσίας τόπον
 προσευχῆς καθιδρύσαντες, ἀνέλυσαν ἄσινεῖς, ἐλεύθεροι, ὑπερ-
 χαρεῖς, διὰ τε γῆς καὶ θαλάσσης καὶ ποταμοῦ ἀνασωζόμενοι τῇ
 τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπιταγῇ, ἕκαστος εἰς τὴν ἰδίαν.
 21 Καὶ πλείστην ἤ ἔμπροσθεν ἐν τοῖς ἐχθροῖς ἐξουσίαν ἐσχ-
 κότες μετὰ δόκης καὶ φόβου, τὸ σύνολον ὑπὸ μηδενὸς δια-
 22 σεισθέντες τῶν ὑπαρχόντων. Καὶ πάντα τὰ ἑαυτῶν πάντες
 ἐκομίσαντο ἐξ ἀπογραφῆς, ὥστε τοὺς ἔχοντάς τι, μετὰ φόβου
 μεγίστου ἀποδοῦναι αὐτοῖς, τὰ μεγαλεία τοῦ μεγίστου Θεοῦ
 23 ποιήσαντος τελείως ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ αὐτῶν. Εὐλογητὸς ὁ ρύστης
 Ἰσραὴλ εἰς τοὺς αἰὲ χρόνους. Ἀμήν.

ance, for the king generously granted them severally the means of securing a return home. ¹⁹They were accordingly brought back in peace, while they gave utterance to becoming thanks; and they determined to keep these days during their sojourn as days of joyfulness. ²⁰These they registered as sacred upon a pillar, when they had dedicated the place of their festivity to be one of prayer. They departed unharmed, free, abundant in joy, preserved by the king's command, by land, by sea, and by river, each to his own home.

²¹They had more weight than before among their enemies; and were honoured and feared, and no one in any way robbed them of their goods. ²²Every man received back his own, according to inventory; those who had obtained their goods, giving them up with the greatest terror. For the greatest God wrought with perfectness wonders for their salvation. ²³Blessed be the Redeemer of Israel unto everlasting. Amen.

Μ Α Κ Κ Α Β Α Ι Ω Ν Δ'.

- ΦΙΛΟΣΟΦΩΤΑΤΟΝ λόγον ἐπιδείκνυσθαι μέλλων, εἰ αὐτο-
 δέσποτός ἐστιν τῶν παθῶν ὁ εὐσεβῆς λογισμός· συμβου-
 λεύσαιμι ἂν ὑμῖν ὀρθῶς, ὅπως προθύμως προσέχητε τῇ
 2 φιλοσοφίᾳ. Καὶ γὰρ ἀναγκαῖος εἰς ἐπιστήμην παντὶ ὁ λόγος,
 καὶ ἄλλως τῆς μεγίστης ἀρετῆς, λέγω δὴ φρονήσεως, περιέχει
 ἔπαινον·
 3 Εἰ ἄρα τῶν σωφροσύνης κωλυτικῶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμὸς
 4 φαίνεται ἐπικρατεῖν, γαστριμαργίας τε καὶ ἐπιθυμίας· ἀλλὰ
 καὶ τῶν τῆς δικαιοσύνης ἐμποδιστικῶν παθῶν κυριεύειν ἀνα-
 φαίνεται, οἷον κακοηθείας· καὶ τῶν τῆς ἀνδρείας ἐμποδιστικῶν
 5 παθῶν, θυμοῦ τε, καὶ πόνου καὶ φόβου. Πῶς οὖν, ἴσως
 εἴποιεν ἄν τινες, εἰ τῶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμὸς κρατεῖ, λήθης καὶ
 6 ἀγνοίας οὐ δεσπόζει; γελοῖον ἐπιχειροῦντες λέγειν· οὐ γὰρ
 τῶν ἑαυτοῦ παθῶν ὁ λογισμὸς κρατεῖ, ἀλλὰ τῶν τῆς δικαιοσύ-
 νης καὶ ἀνδρείας καὶ σωφροσύνης, καὶ φρονήσεως ἐναντίων·
 καὶ τούτων, οὐχ ὥστε αὐτὰ καταλῦσαι, ἀλλ' ὥστε αὐτοῖς μὴ
 εἶξαι.
 7 Πολλαχόθεν μὲν οὖν καὶ ἀλλαχόθεν ἔχοιμι ἂν ὑμῖν ἐπιδείξαι,
 8 ὅτι αὐτοκράτωρ ἐστὶν τῶν παθῶν ὁ εὐσεβῆς λογισμός. Πολὺν
 δὲ πλεον τοῦτο ἀποδείξαιμι ἀπὸ τῆς ἀνδραγαθείας τῶν ὑπὲρ
 ἀρετὴν ἀποθανόντων, Ἐλεαζάρου τε καὶ ἐπὶ ἀδελφῶν καὶ τῆς
 9 τούτων μητρός. Ἀπαντες γὰρ οὗτοι τῶν ἕως θανάτου πόνων

As I am going to demonstrate a most philosophical proposition, namely, that religious reasoning is absolute master of the passions, I would willingly advise you to give the utmost heed to philosophy. ²For reason is necessary to every one as a step to science; and more especially does it embrace the praise of prudence, the highest virtue.

³If, then, reasoning appears to hold the mastery over the passions which stand in the way of temperance, such as gluttony and lust, ⁴it surely also and manifestly has the rule over the affections which are contrary to justice, such as malice; and of those which are hindrances to manliness, as wrath, and pain, and fear. ⁵How, then, is it, perhaps some may say, that reasoning, if it rule the affections, is not also master of forgetfulness and ignorance? They attempt a ridiculous argument. ⁶For reasoning does not rule over its own affections, but over such as are contrary to justice, and manliness, and temperance, and prudence; and yet over these, so as to withstand, without destroying them.

⁷I might prove to you, from many other considerations, that religious reasoning is sole master of the passions; ⁸but I shall prove it with the greatest force from the fortitude of Eleazar, and seven brethren, and their mother, who suffered death in defence of virtue. ⁹For all these, contemning pains

even unto death, by this contempt, demonstrated that reasoning has command over the passions.

¹⁰ For their virtues, then, it is right that I should commend those men who died with their mother at this time in behalf of rectitude; and for their honours, I may count them happy. ¹¹ For they, winning admiration not only from men in general, but even from their persecutors, for their manliness and endurance, became the means of the destruction of the tyranny against their nation, having conquered the tyrant by their endurance, so that by them their country was purified.

¹² But we may now at once enter upon the question, having commenced, as is our wont, with laying down the doctrine, and so proceed to the account of these persons, giving glory to the all wise God.

¹³ The question, therefore, is, whether reasoning be absolute master of the passions.

¹⁴ Let us determine, then, What is reasoning? and what passion? and how many forms of the passions? and whether reasoning bears sway over all of these?

¹⁵ Reasoning is, then, intellect accompanied by a life of rectitude, putting foremost the consideration of wisdom. ¹⁶ And wisdom is a knowledge of divine and human things, and of their causes. ¹⁷ And this is contained in the education of the law; by means of which we learn divine things reverently, and human things profitably.

¹⁸ And the forms of wisdom are prudence, and justice, and manliness, and temperance.

¹⁹ The leading one of these is prudence; by whose means, indeed, it is that reasoning bears rule over the passions. ²⁰ Of the passions, pleasure and pain are the two most comprehensive; and they also by nature refer to the soul. ²¹ And there are many attendant affections surrounding pleasure and pain. ²² Before pleasure is lust; and after pleasure, joy. ²³ And before pain is fear; and after pain, sorrow.

²⁴ Wrath is an affection, common to pleasure and to pain, if any one will pay attention when it comes upon him. ²⁵ And there exists in pleasure a malicious disposition, which is the most multifarious of all the affections. ²⁶ In the soul it is arrogance, and love of money, and vaingloriousness, and contention, and faithlessness, and the evil eye. ²⁷ In the body it is greediness and gormandizing, and solitary gluttony.

²⁸ As pleasure and pain are, therefore, two growths of the body and the soul, so there are many offshoots of these passions. ²⁹ And reasoning, the universal husbandman, purging, and pruning these severally, and binding round, and watering, and transplanting, in every way improves the materials of the morals and affections. ³⁰ For reasoning is the leader of the virtues, but it is the sole ruler of the passions. Observe then first, through the very things which stand in the way of temperance, that reasoning is absolute ruler of the passions.

³¹ Now temperance consists of a command over the lusts. ³² But of the lusts, some belong to the soul, others to the body: and over each of these classes the reasoning appears to bear sway. ³³ For whence is it, otherwise, that when urged on to forbidden

ὑπεριόντες, ὑπεριδόντες ἐπεδείξαντο ὅτι περικρατεῖ τῶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμός.

Τῶν μὲν οὖν ἀρετῶν, ἔπεστί μοι ἐπαινεῖν τοὺς κατὰ τοῦτον 10 τὸν καιρὸν ὑπὲρ τῆς καλοκαγαθίας ἀποθανόντας μετὰ τῆς μητρὸς ἀνδρας· τῶν δὲ τιμῶν μακαρίσαιμι ἄν· θαυμασθέντες 11 γὰρ ἐκεῖνοι οὐ μόνον ὑπὸ πάντων ἀνθρώπων ἐπὶ τῇ ἀνδρείᾳ καὶ τῇ ὑπομονῇ, ἀλλὰ καὶ ὑπὸ τῶν αἰκισαμένων, αἵτιοι κατέστησαν τοῦ καταλυθῆναι τὴν κατὰ τοῦ ἔθνους τυραννίδα, νικήσαντες τὸν τύραννον τῇ ὑπομονῇ, ὥστε δι' αὐτῶν καθαρισθῆναι τὴν πατρίδα.

Ἀλλὰ καὶ περὶ τούτου νῦν αὐτίκα δὴ λέγειν ἐξέσται, ἀρ- 12 ξαμένων τῆς ὑποθέσεως, ὥσπερ εἴωθα ποιεῖν, καὶ οὕτως εἰς τὸν περὶ αὐτῶν τρέφομαι λόγον, δόξαν διδούς τῷ πανσόφῳ Θεῷ.

Ζητοῦμεν δὴ τοίνυν, εἰ αὐτοκράτωρ ἐστὶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμός. 13 Διακρίνωμεν δὲ, τί ποτέ ἐστιν λογισμός; καὶ τί πάθος; καὶ 14 πόσαι παθῶν ιδέαι; καὶ εἰ πάντων ἐπικρατεῖ τούτων ὁ λογισμός;

Λογισμὸς μὲν δὴ τοίνυν ἐστὶν νοῦς μετὰ ὀρθοῦς βίου· 15 πρωτιμῶν τὸν σοφίας λόγον. Σοφία δὴ τοίνυν ἐστὶν γνῶσις 16 θείων καὶ ἀνθρωπίνων πραγμάτων, καὶ τῶν τούτων αἰτίων. Αὕτη δὴ τοίνυν ἐστὶν ἡ τοῦ νόμου παιδεία· δι' ἧς τὰ θεία 17 σεμνῶς, καὶ τὰ ἀνθρώπινα συμφερόντως μανθάνομεν.

Τῆς δὲ σοφίας ιδέαι καθεστᾶσιν, φρόνησις καὶ δικαιοσύνη 18 καὶ ἀνδρεία καὶ σωφροσύνη. Κυριωτάτη πάντων ἡ φρόνησις· 19 ἐξ ἧς δὴ τῶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμὸς ἐπικρατεῖ. Παθῶν δὲ φύσεις 20 εἰσὶν αἱ περιεκτικώταται δύο, ἡδονή τε καὶ πόνος· τούτων δὲ ἑκάτερον καὶ περὶ τὴν ψυχὴν πέφυκεν. Πολλὰ δὲ καὶ 21 περὶ τὴν ἡδονὴν καὶ τὸν πόνον παθῶν εἰσὶν ἀκολουθίαι. Πρὸ 22 μὲν οὖν τῆς ἡδονῆς ἐστὶν ἐπιθυμία· μετὰ δὲ τὴν ἡδονήν, χαρά. Πρὸ δὲ τοῦ πόνου ἐστὶν φόβος· μετὰ δὲ τὸν πόνον, 23 λύπη.

Θυμὸς δὲ κοινὸν πάθος ἐστὶν ἡδονῆς καὶ πόνου, ἐὰν ἐννοηθῇ 24 τις ὅτε αὐτῷ περιέπεσεν. Ἐν δὲ τῇ ἡδονῇ ἐστὶν καὶ ἡ κακο- 25 ἡθης διάθεσις, πολυτροπωτάτη πάντων τῶν παθῶν οὖσα. Κατὰ 26 μὲν ψυχῆς ἀλαζονεία, καὶ φιλαργυρία, καὶ φιλοδοξία, καὶ φιλονεικία, ἀπιστία καὶ βασκανία· κατὰ δὲ τὸ σῶμα, παντο- 27 φαγία, καὶ λαιμαργία, καὶ νομοφαγία.

Καθάπερ οὖν δυοῖν τοῦ σώματος καὶ τῆς ψυχῆς φυτῶν ὄντων 28 ἡδονῆς τε καὶ πόνου, πολλὰ τούτων τῶν παθῶν εἰσὶν παραφυάδες. Ὡν ἕκαστος ὁ πανγέωργος λογισμὸς περικαθαίρων 29 τε καὶ ἀποκνίζων, καὶ περιπλέκων, καὶ ἐπάρδων, καὶ πάντα τρόπον μεταχέων, ἐξημεροῖ τὰς τῶν ἡθῶν καὶ παθῶν ὕλας. Ὅ γὰρ λογισμὸς τῶν μὲν ἀρετῶν ἐστὶν ἡγεμῶν, τῶν δὲ παθῶν 30 αὐτοκράτωρ. Ἐπιθεώρει γε τοίνυν πρῶτον δι' αὐτῶν κωλυτικῶν τῆς σωφροσύνης ἔργων, ὅτι αὐτοδέσποτός ἐστιν τῶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμός.

Σωφροσύνη δὴ τοίνυν ἐστὶν ἐπικράτεια τῶν ἐπιθυμιῶν. 31 Τῶν δὲ ἐπιθυμιῶν αἱ μὲν εἰσὶν ψυχικαί, αἱ δὲ σωματικαί· καὶ 32 τούτων ἀμφοτέρων ὁ λογισμὸς ἐπικρατεῖν φαίνεται. Ἐπεὶ 33 πόθεν κινούμενοι πρὸς τὰς ἀπειρημένας τοοφὰς, ἀποτρεπόμεθα

τὰς ἐξ ἑαυτῶν ἡδονάς; οὐχ ὅτι δύναται τῶν ὀρέξεων ἐπικρατεῖν
 34 ὁ λογισμὸς; ἐγὼ μὲν οἶμαι. Τοιγαροῦν ἐνύδρων ἐπιθυμοῦντες
 καὶ ὀρνέων καὶ τετραπόδων, παντοίων βρωμάτων τῶν ἀπη-
 35 γορευμένων ἡμῖν κατὰ τὸν νόμον ἀπεχόμεθα διὰ τὴν τοῦ
 λογισμοῦ ἐπικράτειαν. Ἀντέχεται γὰρ τὰ τῶν ὀρέξεων πάθη
 ὑπὸ τοῦ σώφρονος νοῦς ἀνακαμπτόμενα· καὶ φιλοτιμοῦνται
 πάντα τὰ τοῦ σώματος κινήματα ὑπὸ τοῦ λογισμοῦ.

2 Καὶ τί θαυμαστὸν; εἰ αἱ τῆς ψυχῆς ἐπιθυμίαι πρὸς τὴν τοῦ
 2 κάλλους μετουσίαν ἀκυροῦνται. Ταύτῃ γοῦν ὁ σώφρων
 Ἰωσήφ ἐπαινεῖται, ὅτι τῷ λογισμῷ, διανοία περιεκράτησεν τῆς
 3 ἡδυπαθείας. Νέος γὰρ ὢν καὶ ἀκμάζων πρὸς συνουσιασμόν
 ἠκύρωσεν τῷ λογισμῷ τὸν τῶν παθῶν οἶστρον.

4 Οὐ μόνον δὲ τὴν τῆς ἡδυπαθείας οἶστρονλασίαν ἐπικρατεῖν
 5 ὁ λογισμὸς φαίνεται, ἀλλὰ καὶ πάσης ἐπιθυμίας. Λέγει γοῦν
 ὁ νόμος· οὐκ ἐπιθυμήσεις τὴν γυναῖκα τοῦ πλησίον σου, οὐδὲ
 6 ὅσα τῷ πλησίον σου ἐστίν. Καίτοι ὅτε μὴ ἐπιθυμεῖν εἴρηκεν
 ἡμᾶς ὁ νόμος, πολὺ πλέον πείσαιμ' ἂν ὑμᾶς, ὅτι τῶν ἐπιθυμιῶν
 κρατεῖν δύναται ὁ λογισμὸς, ὥσπερ καὶ τῶν κωλυτικῶν τῆς
 7 δικαιοσύνης παθῶν. Ἐπεὶ τίνα τρόπον μονοφάγος τις ὢν τὸ
 ἦθος, καὶ γαστρίμαργος, καὶ μέθυσος, μεταπαιδεύεται, εἰ μὴ
 δῆλον, ὅτι κύριός ἐστιν τῶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμὸς;

8 Αὐτίκα γοῦν τῷ νόμῳ πολιτευόμενος, καὶ φιλάργυρός τις
 εἷη, βιάζεται τὸν ἑαυτοῦ τρόπον, τοῖς δεομένοις δανείζων χωρὶς
 τόκων, καὶ τὸ δάνειον τῶν ἐβδομάδων ἐντάσσειν χρεοκοπού-
 9 μενος. Καὶ φειδωλὸς τις ᾗ, ὑπὸ τοῦ νόμου κρατεῖται διὰ τὸν
 λογισμὸν, μήτε ἐπικαρπούμενος τοὺς ἀμνητοὺς, μήτε ἐπιβρῶγο-
 λογούμενος τοὺς ἀμπελώνας, καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν ἐτέρων ἐστὶν ἐπιγνώ-
 ναι τοῦτο, ὅτι τῶν παθῶν ἐστὶν ὁ λογισμὸς κρατῶν.

10 Ὁ γὰρ νόμος καὶ τῆς πρὸς γονεῖς εὐνοίας κρατεῖ, μὴ κατα-
 11 προδίδους τὴν ἀρετὴν δι' αὐτοὺς· καὶ τῆς προσγαμετῆς φιλίας
 12 ἐπικρατεῖ, διὰ παρανομίαν αὐτὴν ἀπελέγχων. Καὶ τῆς τέκνων
 φιλίας κυριεύει, διὰ κακίαν αὐτῶν κολάζων, καὶ τῆς φίλων
 13 συνηθείας δεσπάζει, διὰ πονηρίας αὐτοὺς ἐξελέγχων. Καὶ μὴ
 νομίσητε παράδοξον εἶναι, ὅπου καὶ ἔχθραν ὁ λογισμὸς ἐπι-
 14 κρατεῖν δύναται διὰ τὸν νόμον, μηδὲ δεινότητων τὰ ἡμέρα τῶν
 πολεμίων φυτὰ, τὰ δὲ τῶν ἐχθρῶν τοῖς ἀπολέσασιν διασώζων,
 καὶ τὰ πεπτωκότα συνεγείρων.

15 Καὶ τῶν βιοτέρων δὲ παθῶν κρατεῖν ὁ λογισμὸς φαίνε-
 16 ται, φιλαρχίας, καὶ κενοδοξίας, καὶ ἀλαζονείας, καὶ μεγαλαυ-
 χίας, καὶ βασκανίας. Πάντα γὰρ ταῦτα τὰ κακοήθη πάθη ὁ
 σώφρων νοῦς ἀπωθεῖται, ὥσπερ καὶ τὸν θυμόν· καὶ γὰρ τοῦτο
 δεσπάζει.

17 Θυμούμενος γέ τοι Μωσῆς κατὰ Δαθὰν καὶ Ἀβειρῶν, οὐ
 θυμῷ τι κατ' αὐτῶν ἐποίησεν, ἀλλὰ λογισμῷ τὸν θυμὸν διήτη-
 18 σεν. Δυνατὸς γὰρ ὁ σώφρων νοῦς, ὡς ἔφην, κατὰ τῶν παθῶν
 ἀριστεύει, καὶ τὰ μὲν αὐτῶν μεταθεῖναι, τὰ δὲ καὶ ἀκυρῶσαι.
 19 Ἐπεὶ διατί ὁ πάνσοφος ἡμῶν πατὴρ Ἰακώβ τοὺς περὶ Συμεὼν

meats, we reject the gratification which would ensue from them? Is it not because reasoning is able to command the appetites? I believe so. ³¹Hence it is, then, that when lusting after water-animals and birds, and fourfooted beasts, and all kinds of food which are forbidden us by the law, we withhold ourselves through the mastery of reasoning. ³²For the affections of our appetites are resisted by the temperate understanding, and bent back again, and all the impulses of the body are reined in by reasoning.

And what wonder? if the lusts of the soul, after participation with what is beautiful, are frustrated, ²on this ground, therefore, the temperate Joseph is praised in that by reasoning, he subdued, on reflection, the indulgence of sense. ³For, although young, and ripe for sexual intercourse, he abrogated by reasoning the stimulus of his passions.

⁴And it is not merely the stimulus of sensual indulgence, but that of every desire, that reasoning is able to master. ⁵For instance, the law says, Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor anything that belongs to thy neighbour. ⁶Now, then, since it is the law which has forbidden us to desire, I shall much the more easily persuade you, that reasoning is able to govern our lusts, just as it does the affections which are impediments to justice. ⁷Since in what way is a solitary eater, and a glutton, and a drunkard reclaimed, unless it be clear that reasoning is lord of the passions?

⁸A man, therefore, who regulates his course by the law, even if he be a lover of money, straightway puts force upon his own disposition; lending to the needy without interest, and cancelling the debt of the incoming sabbath. ⁹And should a man be parsimonious, he is ruled by the law acting through reasoning; so that he does not glean his harvest crops, nor vintage: and in reference to other points we may perceive that it is reasoning that conquers his passions.

¹⁰For the law conquers even affection toward parents, not surrendering virtue on their account. ¹¹And it prevails over marriage love, condemning it when transgressing law. ¹²And it lords it over the love of parents toward their children, for they punish them for vice; and it domineers over the intimacy of friends, reproving them when wicked. ¹³And think it not a strange assertion that reasoning can in behalf of the law conquer even enmity. ¹⁴It alloweth not to cut down the cultivated herbage of an enemy, but preserveth it from the destroyers, and collecteth their fallen ruins.

¹⁵And reasoning appears to be master of the more violent passions, as love of empire and empty boasting, and arrogance, and loud boasting, and slander. ¹⁶For the temperate understanding repels all these malignant passions, as it does wrath: for it masters even this.

¹⁷Thus Moses, when angered against Dathan and Abiram, did nothing to them in wrath, but regulated his anger by reasoning. ¹⁸For the temperate mind is able, as I said, to be superior to the passions, and to transfer some, and destroy others. ¹⁹For why, else, does our most wise father Jacob

blame Simeon and Levi for having irrationally slain the whole race of the Shechemites, saying, Cursed be their anger. ²⁰ For if reasoning did not possess the power of subduing angry affections, he would not have spoken thus.

²¹ For at the time when God created man, He implanted within him his passions and moral nature. ²² And at that time He enthroned above all the holy leader mind, through the medium of the senses. ²³ And He gave a law to this *mind*, by living according to which it will maintain a temperate, and just, and good, and manly reign. ²⁴ How, then, a man may say, if reasoning be master of the passions, has it no control over forgetfulness and ignorance?

The argument is exceedingly ridiculous: for reasoning does not appear to bear sway over its own affections, but over those of the body, ² in such a way as that any one of you may not be able to root out desire, but reasoning will enable you to avoid being enslaved to it.

³ One may not be able to root out anger from the soul, but it is possible to withstand anger. ⁴ Any one of you may not be able to eradicate malice, but reasoning has force to work with you to prevent your yielding to malice. ⁵ For reasoning is not an eradicator, but an antagonist of the passions. ⁶ And this may be more clearly comprehended from the thirst of King David. ⁷ For after David had been attacking the Philistines the whole day, he with the soldiers of his nation slew many of them; ⁸ then when evening came, sweating and very weary, he came to the royal tent, about which the entire host of our ancestors was encamped.

⁹ Now all the rest of them were at supper; ¹⁰ but the king, being very much athirst, although he had numerous springs, could not by their means quench his thirst; ¹¹ but a certain irrational longing for the water in the enemy's camp grew stronger and fiercer upon him, and consumed him with languish.

¹² Wherefore his body-guards being troubled at this longing of the king, two valiant young soldiers, reverencing the desire of the king, put on their panoplies, and taking a pitcher, got over the ramparts of the enemies: ¹³ and unperceived by the guardians of the gate, they went throughout the whole camp of the enemy in quest. ¹⁴ And having boldly discovered the fountain, they filled out of it the draught for the king.

¹⁵ But he, though parched up with thirst, reasoned that a draught reputed of equal value to blood, would be terribly dangerous to his soul. ¹⁶ Wherefore, setting up reasoning in opposition to his desire, he poured out the draught to God. ¹⁷ For the temperate mind has power to conquer the pressure of the passions, and to quench the fires of excitement, ¹⁸ and to wrestle down the pains of the body, however excessive; and, through the excellency of reasoning, to abominate all the assaults of the passions.

¹⁹ But the occasion now invites us to give an illustration of temperate reasoning from history. ²⁰ For at a time when our fathers were in possession of undisturbed peace through obedience to the law, and were prosperous, so that Seleucus Nicanor, the

καὶ Δευὶν αἰτιάται, μὴ λογισμῷ τοὺς Σικιμίτας ἐθνηδὸν ἀποσφάξαντας, λέγων, ἐπικατάρματος ὁ θυμὸς αὐτῶν; Εἰ μὴ ²⁰ γὰρ ἐδύνετο τῶν θυμῶν ὁ λογισμὸς κρατεῖν, οὐκ ἂν εἶπεν οὕτως.

Ὅπηνίκα γὰρ ὁ Θεὸς τὸν ἄνθρωπον κατεσκεύαζεν, τὰ πάθη ²¹ αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ ἥθη περιεφύτευσεν. Καὶ τηνικαῦτα δὲ περὶ ²² πάντων τὸν ἱερὸν ἡγεμόνα νοῦν διὰ τῶν αἰσθητηρίων ἐνεθρόνισεν· καὶ τούτῳ νόμον ἔδωκεν, καθ' ὃν πολιτευόμενος βασι- ²³ λεύσει βασιλείαν σώφρονά τε, καὶ δικαίαν, καὶ ἀγαθὴν, καὶ ἀνδρείαν. Πῶς οὖν, εἶποι τις ἂν, εἰ τῶν παθῶν ὁ λογισμὸς ²⁴ κρατεῖ, λήθης καὶ ἀγνοίας οὐ κρατεῖ;

Ἔστι δὲ κομιδὴ γελοῖος ὁ λογισμὸς· οὐ γὰρ τῶν ἑαυτοῦ ³ παθῶν ὁ λογισμὸς ἐπικρατεῖν φαίνεται, ἀλλὰ τῶν σωματικῶν. Οἷον ἐπιθυμίαν τις ὑμῶν οὐ δύναται ἐκκόψαι, ἀλλὰ μὴ δουλω- ² θῆναι τῇ ἐπιθυμίᾳ δύναται ὁ λογισμὸς παρασχέσθαι.

Θυμὸν τις οὐ δύναται ἐκκόψαι ἡμῶν τῆς ψυχῆς, ἀλλὰ τῷ ³ θυμῷ δυνατόν βοήθησαι. Κακοῦθιάν τις ὑμῶν οὐ δύναται ⁴ ἐκκόψαι, ἀλλὰ τὸ μὴ καμφθῆναι τῇ κακοῦθειᾳ δυνατόν ὁ λογισμὸς συμμαχεῖσθαι. Οὐ γὰρ ἐκρίζωτῆς τῶν παθῶν ὁ ⁵ λογισμὸς ἐστίν, ἀλλ' ἀνταγωνιστής. Ἔστιν γοῦν τοῦτο διὰ ⁶ τῆς Δαυεὶδ τοῦ βασιλέως δίψης σαφέστερον ἐπιλογίσασθαι. Ἐπεὶ γὰρ δι' ὅλης ἡμέρας προσβαλὼν τοῖς ἄλλοφύλοις ὁ ⁷ Δαυὶδ, πολλοὺς αὐτῶν ἀπέκτεινεν μετὰ τῶν τοῦ ἔθνους στρατιωτῶν· τότε δὲ γενομένης ἑσπέρας, ὑδρῶν καὶ σφόδρα κεκμη- ⁸ κώς, ἐπὶ τὴν βασιλείον σκηνὴν ἦλθεν, περὶ ἣν ὁ πᾶς τῶν προγόνων στρατὸς ἐστρατοπέδευκεν.

Οἱ μὲν οὖν ἄλλοι πάντες ἐπὶ τὸ δεῖπνον ἦσαν. Ὁ δὲ ^{9, 10} βασιλεὺς ὡς μάλιστα διψῶν, καίπερ ἀφθόνους ἔχων πηγὰς, οὐκ ἠδύνατο δι' αὐτῶν ἰάσασθαι τὴν δίψαν· ἀλλὰ τις αὐτὸν ¹¹ ἀλόγιστος ἐπιθυμία τοῦ παρὰ τοῖς πολεμίοις ὕδατος ἐπιτείνουσα συνέφρυγεν, καὶ λύουσα κατέφλεγεν.

Ὅθεν τῶν ὑπερασπιστῶν ἐπὶ τῇ τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπιθυμίᾳ ¹² σχετλιαζόντων, δύο νεανίσκοι στρατιῶται καρτεροὶ καταιδεσθέντες τὴν τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπιθυμίαν, τὰς πανοπλίας καθωπλίσαντο, καὶ κάλπην λαβόντες ὑπερέβησαν τοὺς τῶν πολεμίων χάρακας· καὶ λαθόντες τοὺς τῶν πυλῶν ἀκροφύλακας, διεξ- ¹³ ἦσαν εὐράμενοι κατὰ πᾶν τὸ τῶν πολεμίων στρατόπεδον. Καὶ ¹⁴ ἀνευράμενοι θαρράλως τὴν πηγὴν, ἐξ αὐτῆς ἐγέμισαν τῷ βασιλεῖ τὸ ποτόν.

Ὁ δὲ καὶ περὶ τὴν δίψαν διαπυρούμενος, ἐλογίσατο πάν- ¹⁵ δεινον εἶναι κίνδυνον τῇ ψυχῇ λογισθὲν ἰσοδύναμον τὸ ποτόν αἵματι. Ὅθεν ἀντιθεὶς τῇ ἐπιθυμίᾳ τὸν λογισμὸν, ἔσπεισεν ¹⁶ τὸ πόμα τῷ Θεῷ. Δυνατὸς γὰρ ὁ σώφρων νοῦς νικῆσαι τὰς ¹⁷ τῶν παθῶν ἀνάγκας, καὶ σβέσαι τὰς τῶν οἰστρῶν φλεγμονὰς, καὶ τὰς τῶν σωματῶν ἀλγηδόνας καθ' ὑπερβολὴν οὖσας κατα- ¹⁸ παλαῖσαι, καὶ τῆς καλοκαγαθίας τοῦ λογισμοῦ ἀποπτύσαι πάσας τὰς τῶν παθῶν ἐπικρατείας.

Ἦδη δὲ καὶ ὁ καιρὸς ἡμᾶς καλεῖ ἐπὶ τὴν ἀπόδειξιν τῆς ¹⁹ ἱστορίας τοῦ σώφρονος λογισμοῦ. Ἐπειδὴ γὰρ βαθεῖαν ²⁰ εἰρήνην διὰ τὴν εὐνομίαν οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν εἶχον, καὶ ἔπραττον καλῶς, ὥστε καὶ τὸν τῆς Ἀσίας βασιλέα Σέλευκον τὸν Νικά-

21 νόρα καὶ χρήματα εἰς τὴν ἱερουργίαν αὐτοῖς ἀποφορίσαι, καὶ τὴν πολιτείαν αὐτῶν ἀποδέχεσθαι· τότε δὲ τινες πρὸς τὴν κοινὴν νεωτερίσαντες ὁμόνοιαν, πυλντρόπως ἐχρήσαντο συμφοραῖς.

4 Σίμων γάρ τις πρὸς Ὀνίαν ἀντιπολιτεύομενος τὸν ποτε τὴν ἀρχιερωσύνην ἔχοντα διὰ βίου, καλὸν καὶ ἀγαθὸν ἄνδρα, ἐπειδὴ πάντα τρόπον διαβάλλων ὑπὲρ τοῦ ἔθνους οὐκ ἴσχυσεν κακῶσαι, φυγὰς ᾗχετο, τὴν πατρίδα προδώσων.

2 Ὅθεν ἦκων πρὸς Ἀπολλώνιον, τὸν Συρίας τε καὶ Φοινίκης καὶ Κιλικίας στρατηγὸν, ἔλεγεν, εὖνους ὦν τοῖς τοῦ βασιλέως πράγμασιν ἦκω, μηνύων πολλὰς ἰδιωτικῶν χρημάτων μυριάδας ἐν τοῖς Ἱεροσολύμων γαζοφυλακίοις τεθησαύρισται, τῷ ἱερῷ μὴ ἐπικοινωνούσας, ἀλλὰ προσήκειν ταῦτα Σελεύκῳ τῷ βασιλεῖ.

4 Τούτων ἕκαστα γνοὺς ὁ Ἀπολλώνιος, τὸν μὲν Σίμονα τῆς εἰς τὸν βασιλέα κηδεμονίας ἐπαινεῖ, πρὸς δὲ τὸν Σέλευκον ἀναβὰς κατεμήννε τὸν τῶν χρημάτων θησαυρόν· καὶ λαβὼν τὴν περὶ αὐτῶν ἐξουσίαν, ταχὺ εἰς τὴν πατρίδα ἡμῶν μετὰ τοῦ καταράτου Σίμωνος καὶ βαρυτάτου στρατοῦ προσελθὼν, ταῖς τοῦ βασιλέως ἐντολαῖς ἦκειν ἔλεγεν, ὅπως τὰ ἰδιωτικὰ τοῦ γαζοφυλακίου λάβοι χρήματα. Καὶ τοῦ ἔθνους πρὸς τὸν λόγον σχετλιάζοντος, ἀντιλέγοντός τε, πάνδεινον εἶναι νομίσαντες, εἰ οἱ τὰς παρακαταθήκας πιστεύσαντας τῷ ἱερῷ θησαυρῷ στερηθήσονται, ὡς οἷόν τε ἦν ἐκώλυν. Μετὰ ἀπειλῆς δὲ ὁ Ἀπολλώνιος ἀπῆει εἰς τὸ ἱερόν.

9 Τῶν δὲ ἱερέων μετὰ γυναικῶν καὶ παιδίων ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ἱκετευσάντων τὸν Θεὸν ὑπερασπίσαι τοῦ ἱεροῦ καταφρονουμένου τόπου. Ἀνιόντος τε μετὰ καθωπλισμένης τῆς στρατιᾶς τοῦ Ἀπολλωνίου πρὸς τὴν τῶν χρημάτων ἀρπαγὴν οὐρανόθεν ἔφιπποι προῦφάνησαν ἄγγελοι περιαστράπτοντες τοῖς ὅπλοις, καὶ πολλὴν αὐτοῖς φόβον τε καὶ τρόμον ἐνιόντες. Καταπεσὼν γέ τοι ἡμιθανὴς ὁ Ἀπολλώνιος ἐπὶ τὸν πᾶμφυλον τοῦ ἱεροῦ περίβολον, τὰς χεῖρας ἐξέτεινεν εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν, μετὰ διακρύνων τοὺς Ἑβραίους παρεκάλει, ὅπως περὶ αὐτοῦ εὐξόμενοι, τὸν ἐπουράνιον ἐξευμενίσωσιν στρατόν. Ἐλεγεν γὰρ ἡμαρτηκῶς, ὥστε καὶ ἀποθανεῖν ἄξιος ὑπάρχειν, πᾶσιν τε ἀνθρώποις ὑμνήσειν σωθεῖς τὴν τοῦ ἱεροῦ τόπου μακαριότητα.

13 Τούτοις ἐπαχθεῖς τοῖς λόγοις Ὀνίας ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς, καίπερ ἄλλως εὐλαβηθεῖς, μὴ ποτε νομίσειεν ὁ βασιλεὺς Σέλευκος ἐξ ἀνθρωπίνης ἐπιβουλῆς καὶ μὴ θείας δίκης ἀνῆρησασθαι τὸν Ἀπολλώνιον, ἠῤῥατο περὶ αὐτοῦ. Καὶ ὁ μὲν παραδόξως διασωθεῖς ᾗχετο, δηλώσων τῷ βασιλεῖ τὰ συμβάντα αὐτῷ.

15 Τελευτήσαντος δὲ Σελεύκου τοῦ βασιλέως διαδέχεται τὴν ἀρχὴν ὁ υἱὸς αὐτοῦ Ἀντίοχος Ἐπιφανής, ἀνὴρ ὑπερήφανος καὶ δεινός. Ὅς καταλύσας τὸν Ὀνίαν τῆς ἀρχιερωσύνης, Ἰάσονα τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ κατέστησεν ἀρχιερέα, συνθέμενον δώσειν, εἰ ἐπιτρέψειεν αὐτῷ τὴν ἀρχὴν, κατ' ἐνιαυτὸν τρισχίλια ἑξακόσια ἑξήκοντα τάλαντα.

18 Ὁ δὲ ἐπέτρεψεν αὐτῷ ἀρχιεραῖσθαι καὶ τοῦ ἔθνους ἀφῆ-
19 γεῖσθαι. Ὅς καὶ ἐξεξήτησεν τὸ ἔθνος, καὶ ἐξεπολίτευσεν ἐπὶ

king of Asia, both assigned them money for divine service, and accepted their form of government,²¹ then certain persons, bringing in new things contrary to the general unanimity, in various ways fell into calamities.

For a certain man named Simon, who was in opposition to Onias, who once held the high priesthood for life, and was an honourable and good man, after that by slandering him in every way, he could not injure him with the people, went away as an exile, with the intention of betraying his country.

² Whence coming to Apollonius, the military governor of Syria, and Phoenicia, and Cilicia, he said, ³ Having good will to the king's affairs, I am come to inform thee that infinite private wealth is laid up in the treasures of Jerusalem which do not belong to the temple, but pertain to king Seleucus.

⁴ Apollonius, acquainting himself with the particulars of this, praised Simon for his care of the king's interests, and going up to Seleucus informed him of the treasure; ⁵ and getting authority about it, and quickly advancing into our country with the accursed Simon and a very heavy force, ⁶ he said that he came with the commands of the king that he should take the private money of the treasury. ⁷ And the nation, indignant at this proclamation, and replying to the effect that it was extremely unfair that those who had committed deposits to the sacred treasury should be deprived of them, resisted as well as they could. ⁸ But Apollonius went away with threats into the temple.

⁹ And the priests, with the women and children, having supplicated God to throw his shield over the holy, despised place, ¹⁰ and Apollonius going up with his armed force to the seizure of the treasure,—there appeared from heaven angels riding on horseback, all radiant in armour, filling them with much fear and trembling. ¹¹ And Apollonius fell down half dead upon the court which is open to all nations, and extended his hands to heaven, and implored the Hebrews, with tears, to pray for him, and propitiate the heavenly host. ¹² For he said that he had sinned, so as to be consequently worthy of death; and that if he were saved, he would celebrate to all men the blessedness of the holy place.

¹³ Onias the high priest, induced by these words, although for other reasons anxious that king Seleucus should not suppose that Apollonius was slain by human device and not by Divine punishment, prayed for him; ¹⁴ and he being thus unexpectedly saved, departed to manifest to the king what had happened to him.

¹⁵ But on the death of Seleucus the king, his son Antiochus Epiphanes succeeds to the kingdom: a man of haughty pride and terrible. ¹⁶ Who having deposed Onias from the high priesthood, appointed his brother Jason to be high priest: ¹⁷ who had made a covenant, if he would give him this authority, to pay yearly three thousand six hundred and sixty talents.

¹⁸ And he committed to him the high priesthood and rulership over the nation. ¹⁹ And he both changed the manner of living of the people, and perverted their civil cus-

toms into all lawlessness. ²⁰ So that he not only erected a gymnasium on the very citadel of our country, [but neglected] the guardianship of the temple. ²¹ At which Divine vengeance being grieved, instigated Antiochus himself against them. ²² For being at war with Ptolemy in Egypt, he heard that on a report of his death being spread abroad, the inhabitants of Jerusalem had exceedingly rejoiced, and he quickly marched against them. ²³ And having subdued them, he established a decree that if any of them lived according to the laws of his country, he should die.

²⁴ And when he could by no means destroy by his decrees the obedience to the law of the nation, but saw all his threats and punishments without effect, ²⁵ for even women, because they continued to circumcise their children, were flung down a precipice along with them, knowing beforehand of the punishment. ²⁶ When, therefore, his decrees were disregarded by the people, he himself compelled by means of tortures every one of this race, by tasting forbidden meats, to abjure the Jewish religion.

The tyrant Antiochus, therefore, sitting in public state with his assessors upon a certain lofty place, with his armed troops standing in a circle round him, commanded his spearbearers to seize every one of the Hebrews, and to compel them to taste swine's flesh, and things offered to idols. ³ And should any of them be unwilling to eat the accursed food, they were to be tortured on the wheel, and so killed.

⁴ And when many had been seized, a foremost man of the assembly, a Hebrew, by name Eleazar, a priest by family, by profession a lawyer, and advanced in years, and for this reason known to many of the king's followers, was brought near to him.

⁵ And Antiochus seeing him, said, ⁶ I would counsel thee, old man, before thy tortures begin, to taste the swine's flesh, and save your life; for I feel respect for your age and hoary head, which since you have had so long, you appear to me to be no philosopher in retaining the superstition of the Jews. ⁷ For wherefore, since nature has conferred upon you the most excellent flesh of this animal, do you loathe it? ⁸ It seems senseless not to enjoy what is pleasant, yet not disgraceful; and from notions of sinfulness, to reject the boons of nature.

⁹ And you will be acting, I think, still more senselessly, if you follow vain conceits about the truth. ¹⁰ And you will, moreover, be despising me to your own punishment. ¹¹ Will you not awake from your trifling philosophy? and give up the folly of your notions; and, regaining understanding worthy of your age, search into the truth of an expedient course? ¹² and, reverencing my kindly admonition, have pity upon your own years? ¹³ For, bear in mind, that if there be any power which watches over this religion of yours, it will pardon you for all transgressions of the law which you commit through compulsion.

¹⁴ While the tyrant incited him in this manner to the unlawful eating of flesh, Eleazar begged permission to speak. ¹⁵ And having received power to speak, he began thus to deliver himself: ¹⁶ We, O Antiochus,

πάσαν παρανομίαν. Ὡστε μὴ μόνον ἐπ' αὐτῇ τῇ ἄκρᾳ τῆς 20
πατρίδος ἡμῶν γυμνάσιον κατασκευάσαι, τὴν τοῦ ἱεροῦ κηδε-
μονίαν. Ἐφ' οἷς ἀγανακτήσασι ἡ θεία δίκη αὐτόν τοι τὸν 21
Ἀντίοχον ἐπολέμησεν. Ἐπειδὴ γὰρ πολεμῶν ἦν κατ' Αἴγυπ- 22
τον Πτολεμαίῳ, ἤκουσέν τε, ὅτι φήμης διαδοθείσης περὶ τοῦ
τεθνάναι αὐτόν, ὡς ἐνὶ μάλιστα χαίρουσιν οἱ Ἱεροσολυμίται,
ταχέως ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἀνέβησεν. Καὶ ὡς ἐπόρθησεν αὐτοὺς, δόγμα 23
ἔθετο, ὅπως εἴ τινες αὐτῶν φάνοιεν τῷ πατρίῳ πολιτευόμενοι
νόμῳ θάνοιεν.

Καὶ ἐπεὶ κατὰ μηδένα τρόπον ἴσχυεν καταλῦσαι διὰ τῶν 24
δογμάτων τὴν τοῦ ἔθνους εὐνοίαν, ἀλλὰ πάσας τὰς ἑαυτοῦ
ἀπειλὰς καὶ τιμωρίας ἑώρα καταλυομένας, ὥστε καὶ γυναῖκας, 25
ὅτι περιέτεμον τὰ παῖδια, μετὰ τῶν βρεφῶν κατακρημνισθῆναι,
προειδυίας ὅτι τοῦτο πείσονται· ἐπεὶ οὖν τὰ δόγματα αὐτοῦ 26
κατεφρονεῖτο ὑπὸ τοῦ λαοῦ, αὐτὸς διὰ βασάνων ἕνα ἕκαστον
τούτου ἔθνους ἠνάγκαζεν μικρῶν ἀπογενομένους τροφῶν, ἐξ-
όμνησθαι τὸν Ἰουδαϊσμόν.

Προκαθίσας γέ τοι μετὰ τῶν συνέδρων ὁ τύραννος Ἀντίοχος 5
ἐπὶ τινος ὑψηλοῦ τόπου, καὶ τῶν στρατευμάτων αὐτῶν ἐνόπλων
κυκλόθεν παρεστηκότων παρεκέλευεν τοῖς δορυφόροις ἕνα
ἕκαστον τῶν Ἑβραίων περισπᾶσθαι καὶ κρεῶν ὑείων καὶ
εἰδωλοθύτων ἀναγκάζειν ἀπογεύεσθαι. Εἰ δέ τινες μὴ θέλοιν 3
μαρτοφαγεῖν, τούτους τροχισθέντας ἀναιρεθῆναι.

Πολλῶν δὲ συναρπασθέντων, εἰς πρῶτος ἐκ τῆς ἀγέλης 4
Ἑβραῖος ὀνόματι Ἐλεάζαρος, τὸ γένος ἱερεὺς, τὴν ἐπιστήμην
νομικὸς, καὶ τὴν ἡλικίαν προήκων, καὶ πολλοῖς τῶν περὶ
τὸν τύραννον διὰ τὴν ἡλικίαν γνώριμος, παρήχθη πλησίον
αὐτοῦ.

Καὶ αὐτὸν ἰδὼν ὁ Ἀντίοχος, ἔφη, ἐγὼ πρὶν ἄρξασθαι 5, 6
τῶν κατὰ σοῦ βασάνων, ὧ πρεσβύτερα, συμβουλευσάμην ἂν σοι
ταῦτα ὅπως ἀπογευσάμενος τῶν ὑείων σώζοιο· αἰδοῦμαι γάρ
σου τὴν ἡλικίαν καὶ τὴν πολιάν, ἣν μετὰ τοσοῦτον ἔχων
χρόνον, οὐ μοι δοκεῖς φιλοσοφεῖν, τῇ Ἰουδαίων χρώμενος
θρησκείᾳ. Διατί γὰρ τῆς φύσεως κεχαρισμένης καλλίστην 7
τὴν τοῦδε τοῦ ζώου σαρκοφαγίαν βδελύττη; Καὶ γὰρ ἀνόη- 8
τον τοῦτο τὸ μὴ ἀπολαύειν τῶν χωρὶς ὀνείδους ἡδέων, καὶ δι'
ἄδικον ἀποστρέφειν τὰς τῆς φύσεως χάριτας.

Σὺ δέ μοι καὶ ἀνοητότερον ποιήσεις δοκεῖς, εἰ κενοδοξῶν 9
περὶ τὸ ἀληθές, ἔτι καμοῦ καταφρονήσεις ἐπὶ τῇ ἰδίᾳ τιμωρίᾳ· 10
οὐκ ἐξυπνώσεις ἀπὸ τῆς φλυαρίου φιλοσοφίας ὑμῶν; Καὶ 11
ἀποσκεδάσεις τῶν λογισμῶν σου τὸν λῆρον, καὶ ἄξιον τῆς
ἡλικίας ἀναλαβὼν νοῦν φιλοσοφήσεις τὴν τοῦ συμφέροντος
ἀλήθειαν; καὶ προσκυνήσας μου τὴν φιλάνθρωπον παρηγορίαν 12
οἰκτειρήσεις τὸ σεαυτοῦ γήρας; καὶ γὰρ ἐνθυμήθητι, ὡς εἰ 13
καὶ τίς ἐστιν τῆσδε τῆς θρησκείας ἐποπτικὴ δύναμις, συγνω-
μονήσκειν σοι ἐπὶ πᾶσιν δι' ἀνάγκην παρανομία γενομένην.

Τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον ἐπὶ τὴν ἔκθεσμον σαρκοφαγίαν ἐποτρύ- 14
νοντος τοῦ τυράννου, λόγον ᾗτησεν ὁ Ἐλεάζαρος. Καὶ 15
λαβὼν τοῦ λέγειν ἐξουσίαν, ἤρξατο δημηγορεῖν οὕτως· ἡμεῖς, 16

Ἀντίοχε, θείῳ πεπεισμένοι νόμῳ πολιτεύεσθαι, οὐδεμίαν
 ἀνάγκην βιαιοτέραν εἶναι νομίζομεν τῆς πρὸς τὸν νόμον ἡμῶν
 17 εὐπειθείας. Διὸ δὲ κατ' οὐδένα τρόπον παρανομεῖν ἀξιούμεν.
 18 Καί τοι εἰ καὶ κατὰ ἀλήθειαν μὴ ἦν ὁ νόμος ἡμῶν, ὥς σὺ
 ὑπολαμβάνεις, θεῖος, (ἄλλως δὲ νομίζομεν αὐτὸν εἶναι θεῖον)
 οὐδὲ οὕτως ἐξὸν ἡμῖν ἦν τὴν ἐπὶ τῇ εὐσεβείᾳ δόκαν ἀκυρῶσαι.
 19 Μὴ μικρὰν οὖν εἶναι νομίσης ταύτην, εἰ μιαιοφαγήσεμεν,
 20 ἁμαρτίαν. Τὸ γὰρ ἐν μικροῖς καὶ ἐν μεγάλοις παρανομεῖν
 21 ἰσοδύναμόν ἐστιν· δι' ἑκατέρου γὰρ ὡς ὁμοίως ὁ νόμος ὑπερη-
 φανείται.
 22 Χλευάζεις δὲ ἡμῶν τὴν φιλοσοφίαν, ὥσπερ οὐ μετὰ εὐλο-
 23 γιστίας ἐν αὐτῇ βιούντων. Σωφροσύνην τε γὰρ ἡμᾶς ἐκ-
 διδάσκει, ὥστε πασῶν τῶν ἡδονῶν καὶ ἐπιθυμιῶν κρατεῖν, καὶ
 ἀνδρείαν ἐξασκεῖν, ὥστε πάντα πόνον ἐκουσίως ὑπομένειν·
 24 καὶ δικαιοσύνην παιδεύει, ὥστε διὰ πάντων τῶν ἡθῶν ἰσονομεῖν
 καὶ εὐσέβειαν διδάσκειν, ὥστε μόνον τὸν ὄντα Θεὸν σέβειν
 25 μεγαλοπρεπῶς. Διὸ οὐ μιαιοφαγοῦμεν· πιστεύοντες γὰρ
 Θεοῦ καθεστάναι τὸν νόμον, οἶδαμεν ὅτι καὶ κατὰ φύσιν
 26 ἡμῖν συμπαθεῖ νομοθετῶν ὁ τοῦ κόσμου κτίστης· τὰ μὲν
 οἰκειωθωσόμενα ἡμῶν ταῖς ψυχαῖς ἐπέτρεψεν ἐσθίειν, τὰ δὲ
 ἐναντιωθησόμενα ἐκώλυσεν σαρκοφαγεῖν.
 27 Τυραννικὸν δὲ, οὐ μόνον ἀναγκάζεις ἡμᾶς παρανομεῖν, ἀλλὰ
 καὶ ἐσθίειν, ὅπως τῇ ἐχθίστῃ ἡμῶν μιαιοφαγίᾳ ταύτῃ ἔτι
 28 ἐγγελάσης. Ἄλλ' οὐ γελάσεις κατ' ἐμοῦ τοῦτον τὸν γέλωτα·
 29 οὔτε τοὺς ἱεροὺς τῶν προγόνων περὶ τοῦ φυλάξαι τὸν νόμον
 30 ὅρκους οὐ παρήσω. Οὐδ' ἂν ἐκκόψεις μου τὰ ὄμματα, καὶ
 31 τὰ σπλάγχνα μου τήξεις. Οὐχ οὕτως εἰμὶ γέρον ἐγὼ καὶ
 ἄνθρωπος, ὥστε μοι διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν μὴ νεάζειν τὸν λο-
 γισμόν.
 32 Πρὸς ταῦτα τροχοὺς εὐτρέπιζε, καὶ τὸ πῦρ ἐκφύσα σφοδρό-
 33 τερον. Οὐχ οὕτως οἰκτειρήσω τὸ ἔμυτον γῆρας, ὥστε με δι'
 34 ἔμυτον τὸν πάτριον καταλῦσαι νόμον. Οὐ ψεύσομαί σε,
 35 παιδευτὰ νόμε, οὐδὲ φεύξομαί σε, φίλη ἐγκράτεια. Οὐδὲ
 καταισχυνῶ σε, φιλόσοφε λόγε, οὐδὲ ἐξαρνήσεμαί σε, ἱερω-
 36 σὴν τιμία, καὶ νομοθεσίας ἐπιστήμη· οὐδὲ μιανείς μου τὸ
 σεμνὸν γήρως στόμα, οὐδὲ νομίμου βίου ἡλικίαν.
 37 Ἀγνόν με οἱ πατέρες προσδέχονται, μὴ φοβηθέντα σου τὰς
 38 μέχρι θανάτου ἀνάγκας. Ἀσεβῶν μὲν γὰρ τυραννήσεις· τῶν
 δὲ ἐμῶν περὶ τῆς εὐσεβείας λογισμῶν οὔτε λόγοις δεσπόσεις,
 οὔτε δι' ἔργων.
 6 Τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον ἀντιρητορεύσαντα ταῖς τοῦ τυράννου
 παρηγορίαις, παραστάντες οἱ δορυφόροι πικρῶς ἔσυραν ἐπὶ τὰ
 2 βασανιστήρια τὸν Ἐλεάζαρον. Καὶ πρῶτον μὲν περιέδυσαν
 τὸν γηραιὸν ἐκκεκοσμημένον περὶ τὴν εὐσέβειαν εὐσχημοσύνην.
 3 Ἐπειτα περιαγκωνίσαντες ἑκατέρωθεν, μαστίξιν κατήκτιζον·
 4 πείσθητι ταῖς τοῦ βασιλέως ἐντολαῖς, ἐτέρωθεν κήρυκος ἐπι-
 βοῶντος.
 5 Ὁ δὲ μεγαλόφρων καὶ εὐγενὴς ὡς ἀληθῶς Ἐλεάζαρος,
 ὥσπερ ἐν ὀνείρῳ βασανιζόμενος κατ' οὐδένα τρόπον μετετρέ-
 6 πετο. Ἀλλὰ ὑψηλοὺς ἀνατείνας εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν τοὺς ὀφθαλ-
 μούς, ἀπεξαινετο ταῖς μαστίξιν τὰς σάρκας ὁ γέρων, καὶ

who are persuaded that we live under a divine law, consider no compulsion to be so forcible as obedience to that law; ¹⁷ wherefore we consider that we ought not in any point to transgress the law. ¹⁸ And indeed, were our law (as you suppose) not truly divine, and if we wrongly think it divine, we should have no right even in that case to destroy our sense of religion. ¹⁹ Think not eating the unclean, then, a trifling offence. ²⁰ For transgression of the law, whether in small or great matters, is of equal moment; ²¹ for in either case the law is equally slighted.

²² But thou deridest our philosophy, as though we lived irrationally in it. ²³ Yet it instructs us in temperance, so that we are superior to all pleasures and lusts; and it exercises us in manliness, so that we cheerfully undergo every grievance. ²⁴ And it instructs us in justice, so that in all our dealings we render what is due; and it teaches us piety, so that we worship the one only God becomingly. ²⁵ Wherefore it is that we eat not the unclean; for believing that the law was established by God, we are convinced that the Creator of the world, in giving his laws, sympathises with our nature. ²⁶ Those things which are convenient to our souls, he has directed us to eat; but those which are repugnant to them, he has interdicted.

²⁷ But, tyrant-like, thou not only forcest us to break the law, but also to eat, that thou mayest ridicule us as we thus profanely eat: ²⁸ but thou shalt not have this cause of laughter against me; ²⁹ nor will I transgress the sacred oaths of my forefathers to keep the law. ³⁰ No, not if you pluck out my eyes, and consume my entrails. ³¹ I am not so old, and void of manliness, but that my rational powers are youthful in defence of my religion.

³² Now then; prepare your wheels, and kindle a fiercer flame. ³³ I will not so compassionate my old age, as on my account to break the law of my country. ³⁴ I will not belie thee, O law, my instructor! or forsake thee, O beloved self-control. ³⁵ I will not put thee to shame, O philosopher Reason; or deny thee, O honoured priesthood, and science of the law. ³⁶ Mouth! thou shalt not pollute my old age, nor the full stature of a perfect life.

³⁷ My fathers shall receive me pure, not having quailed before your compulsion, though unto death. ³⁸ For over the ungodly thou shalt tyrannize; but thou shalt not lord it over my thoughts about religion, either by thy arguments, or through deeds.

When Eleazar had in this manner answered the exhortations of the tyrant, the spearbearers came up, and rudely haled Eleazar to the instruments of torture. ² And first, they stripped the old man, adorned as he was with the comeliness of piety. ³ Then tying back his arms and hands, they disdainfully used him with stripes; ⁴ a herald opposite crying out, Obey the commands of the king.

⁵ But Eleazar, the high-minded and truly noble, as one tortured in a dream, regarded it not at all. ⁶ But raising his eyes on high to heaven, the old man's flesh was stripped off by the scourges, and his blood streamed

down, and his sides were pierced through. ⁷And falling upon the ground, from his body having no power to support the pains, he yet kept his reasoning upright and unbending. ⁸Then one of the harsh spear-bearers leaped upon his belly as he was falling, to force him upright.

⁹But he endured the pains, and despised the cruelty, and persevered through the indignities; ¹⁰and like a noble athlete, the old man, when struck, vanquished his torturers. ¹¹His countenance sweating, and he panting for breath, he was admired by the very torturers for his courage.

¹²Wherefore, partly in pity for his old age, ¹³partly from the sympathy of acquaintance, and partly in admiration of his endurance, some of the attendants of the king said, ¹⁴Why do you unreasonably destroy yourself, O Eleazar, with these miseries? ¹⁵We will bring you some meat cooked by yourself, and do you save yourself by pretending that you have eaten swine's flesh.

¹⁶And Eleazar, as though the advice more painfully tortured him, cried out, ¹⁷Let not us who are children of Abraham be so evil advised as by giving way to make use of an unbecoming pretence; ¹⁸for it were irrational, if having lived up to old age in all truth, and having scrupulously guarded our character for it, we should now turn back, ¹⁹and ourselves should become a pattern of impiety to the young, as being an example of pollution eating. ²⁰It would be disgraceful if we should live on some short time, and that scorned by all men for cowardice, ²¹and be condemned by the tyrant for unmanliness, by not contending to the death for our divine law. ²²Wherefore do you, O children of Abraham, die nobly for your religion. ²³Ye spearbearers of the tyrant, why do ye linger?

²⁴Beholding him so high-minded against misery, and not changing at their pity, they led him to the fire; ²⁵then with their wickedly-contrived instruments they burnt him on the fire, and poured stinking fluids down into his nostrils.

²⁶And he being at length burnt down to the bones, and about to expire, raised his eyes God-ward, and said, ²⁷Thou knowest, O God, that when I might have been saved, I am slain for the sake of the law by tortures of fire. ²⁸Be merciful to thy people, and be satisfied with the punishment of me on their account. ²⁹Let my blood be a purification for them, and take my life in recompense for theirs. ³⁰Thus speaking, the holy man departed, noble in his torments, and even to the agonies of death resisted in his reasoning for the sake of the law.

³¹Confessedly, therefore, religious reasoning is master of the passions. ³²For had the passions been superior to reasoning, I would have given them the witness of this mastery. ³³But now, since reasoning conquered the passions, we befittingly award it the authority of first place.

³⁴And it is but fair that we should allow, that the power belongs to reasoning, since it masters external miseries. ³⁵Ridiculous would it be were it not so; and I prove that

κατερρέετο τῷ αἵματι, καὶ τὰ πλευρὰ κατετιτρώσκετο, καὶ 7 πίπτων εἰς τὸ ἔδαφος, ἀπὸ τοῦ μὴ φέρειν τὸ σῶμα τὰς ἀλγηδόνας, ὀρθὸν εἶχεν καὶ ἀκλινῇ τὸν λογισμόν. Δὰξ γέ τοι 8 τῶν πικρῶν τις δορυφόρων, εἰς τοὺς κενεῶνας ἐναλλόμενος ἔτυπτεν, ὅπως ἐξανίσταται πίπτων.

Ὁ δὲ ὑπέμενε τοὺς πόνοὺς, καὶ περιεφρόνει τῆς ἀνάγκης, 9 καὶ διεκαρτέρει τοὺς αἰκισμοὺς, καὶ καθάπερ γενναῖος ἀθλητὴς 10 τυπτόμενος ἐνῖκα τοὺς βασανίζοντας ὁ γέρον. Ἰδρῶν γέ τοι 11 τὸ πρόσωπον, καὶ ἐπασθμαίνων σφοδρῶς, καὶ ὑπ' αὐτῶν τῶν βασανιζόντων ἐθαυμάζετο ἐπὶ τῇ εὐτυχίᾳ.

Ὅθεν τὰ μὲν ἐλεοῦντες τὰ τοῦ γήρως αὐτοῦ, τὰ δὲ ἐν 12, 13 συμπαθείᾳ τῆς συνηθείας ὄντες, τὰ δὲ ἐν θαυμασῶ τῆς καρτερίας προσιόντες αὐτῷ τινες τῶν τοῦ βασιλέως ἔλεγον, τί τοῖς 14 κακοῖς τούτοις σεαυτὸν ἀλογίστως ἀπολλεῖς, Ἐλεάζαρ; ἡμεῖς 15 μὲν τῶν ἡψημένων βρωμάτων παραθήσομεν· σὺ δὲ ὑποκρινόμενος τῶν ὑείων ἀπογεύσασθαι, σώθητι.

Καὶ ὁ Ἐλεάζαρος, ὥσπερ πικρότερον διὰ τῆς συμβουλίας 16 αἰκισθεὶς, ἀνεβόησεν, μὴ οὕτως κακῶς φρονήσαιμεν οἱ Ἀβραὰμ 17 παῖδες, ὥστε μαλακοψυχήσαντας ἀπρεπὲς ἡμῖν δρᾶμα ὑποκρίνασθαι. Καὶ γὰρ ἀλόγιστον, εἰ πρὸς ἀλήθειαν ζήσαντες 18 τὸν μέχρι γήρως βίον, καὶ τὴν ἐπ' αὐτῶν δόξαν νομίμως φυλάσσοντες, νῦν μεταβαλοίμεθα, καὶ αὐτοὶ μὲν ἡμεῖς γενοί- 19 μεθα τοῖς νέοις ἀσεβείας τύπος, ἵνα παράδειγμα γενώμεθα τῆς μieroφαγίας. Αἰσχρὸν γὰρ εἰ ἐπιβιώσωμεν ὀλίγον χρόνον, 20 καὶ τοῦτον καταγελώμενοι πρὸς ἀπάντων ἐπὶ δειλίᾳ· καὶ ὑπὸ 21 μὲν τοῦ τυράννου καταφρονηθῶμεν ὡς ἄνθρωποι, τὸν δὲ θεῖον ἡμῶν νόμον μέχρι θανάτου μὴ προασπίσαιμεν. Πρὸς ταῦτα 22 ὑμεῖς μὲν, ὦ Ἀβραὰμ παῖδες, εὐγενῶς ὑπὲρ τῆς εὐσεβείας τελευτᾶτε. Οἱ δὲ τοῦ τυράννου δορυφόροι, τί μέλλετε; 23

Πρὸς τὰς ἀνάγκας οὕτως μεγαλοφρονοῦντα αὐτὸν ἰδόντες, 24 καὶ μηδὲ πρὸς τὸν οἰκτιρμὸν αὐτῶν μεταβαλλόμενοι, ἐπὶ τὸ πῦρ αὐτὸν ἤγαγον. Ἐνθα διὰ κακοτέχνων ὀργάνων καταφλέ- 25 γοντες αὐτὸν ὑπερέπτοσαν, καὶ δυσώδεις χυλοὺς εἰς τοὺς μυκτῆρας αὐτοῦ κατέχεον.

Ὁ δὲ μέχρι τῶν ὀστέων ἤδη κατακεκαυμένος καὶ μέλλων 26 λιποθυμεῖν, ἀνέτεινε τὰ ὄμματα πρὸς τὸν Θεόν, καὶ εἶπεν, σὺ οἶσθα, Θεέ, παρόν μοι σώζεσθαι, βασάνοις καυστικαῖς 27 ἀποθνήσκω διὰ τὸν νόμον. Ἰλεως γενοῦ τῷ ἔθνει σου, ἀρκεσθεῖς 28 τῇ ἡμετέρᾳ περὶ αὐτῶν δίκη. Καθάριστον αὐτῶν ποίησον τὸ 29 ἔμὸν αἷμα, καὶ ἀντίψυχον αὐτῶν λαβὲ τὴν ἐμὴν ψυχὴν. Καὶ 30 ταῦτα εἰπὼν ὁ ἱερὸς ἀνὴρ εὐγενῶς ταῖς βασάνοις ἐναπέθανεν, καὶ μέχρι τῶν τοῦ θανάτου βασάνων ἀντέστη τῷ λογισμῷ διὰ τὸν νόμον.

Ὁμολογουμένως οὖν δεσπότης ἐστὶν τῶν παθῶν ὁ εὐσεβὴς 31 λογισμός. Εἰ γὰρ τὰ πάθη τοῦ λογισμοῦ κεκρατῆκει, τούτοις 32 ἂν ἀπεδόμην τὴν τῆς ἐπικρατείας μαρτυρίαν. Νυνὶ δὲ τοῦ 33 λογισμοῦ τὰ πάθη νικήσαντος, αὐτῷ προσηκόντως τὴν τῆς ἡγεμονίας προσνέμομεν ἑξουσίαν.

Καὶ δίκαιόν ἐστιν ὁμολογεῖν ἡμᾶς, τὸ κράτος εἶναι τοῦ 34 λογισμοῦ, ὅπου γε καὶ τῶν ἔξωθεν ἀλγηδόνων ἐπικρατεῖ. Ἐπεὶ καὶ γελοῖον· καὶ οὐ μόνον τῶν ἀλγηδόνων ἐπιδείκνυμι 35

κεκρατηκέναι τὸν λογισμὸν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν ἡδονῶν κρατεῖν, μὴδὲ αὐταῖς ὑπέκειν.

- 7 Ὡσπερ καὶ ἄριστος κυβερνήτης ὁ τοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν Ἐλεάζρου λογισμὸς, πηδαλιουεχῶν τὴν τῆς εὐσεβείας ναὺν ἐν τῷ
2 τῶν παθῶν πελάγει, καὶ κατακιζόμενος ταῖς τοῦ τυράννου ἀπειλαῖς, καὶ καταντλούμενος ταῖς τῶν βασάνων τρικυμίαις,
3 κατ' οὐδένα τρόπον μετέτρεψεν τοὺς τῆς εὐσεβείας οἶακας, ἕως οὐ ἔπλευσεν ἐπὶ τὸν τῆς θανάτου νίκης λιμένα.
- 4 Οὐχ οὕτως πόλις πολλοῖς καὶ ποικίλοις μηχανήμασιν ἀντέσχεν ποτὲ πολιορκουμένη, ὥς ὁ πανάγιος ἐκείνος τὴν ἱερὰν ψυχὴν αἰκισμοῖς τε καὶ στρέβλαις πυρπολούμενος, ἐκίνησεν τοὺς πολιορκούντας, διὰ τὸν ὑπερασπίζοντα τῆς εὐσεβείας
5 λογισμόν. Ὡσπερ γὰρ πρόκρημνον ἄκραν, τὴν ἑαυτοῦ διάνοιαν ὁ πατὴρ Ἐλεάζαρος ἐκτείνας, περιέκλασεν τοὺς μαινομένους τῶν παθῶν κλύδωνας.
- 6 Ὡ ἀξιε τῆς ἱερωσύνης ἱερεῦ, οὐκ ἐμίανας τοὺς ἱεροὺς ὁδόντας, οὐδὲ τὴν θεοσέβειαν καὶ καθαρισμόν χωρήσασαν γαστέρα
7 ἐκοινώησας μieroφαγία. Ὡ σύμφωνε νόμου, καὶ φιλόσοφε
8 θεοῦ βίου. ΤοίOUTOUS δεῖ εἶναι τοὺς δημιουργοῦντας τὸν νόμον ἰδίῳ αἵματι, καὶ γενναίῳ ἰδρῶτι τοῖς μέχρι θανάτου πάθεσιν ὑπερασπίζοντας.
- 9 Σὺ πάτερ, τὴν εὐνομίαν ἡμῶν διὰ τῶν ὑπομονῶν εἰς δόξαν ἐκύρωςας, καὶ τὴν ἀγιαστίαν σεμνολογήσας οὐ κατέλυσας, καὶ διὰ τῶν ἔργων ἐπιστοποίησας τοὺς τῆς φιλοσοφίας λόγους.
- 10 Ὡ βασάνων βιότερε γέρων, πυρὸς εὐτονώτερε πρεσβύτα, καὶ παθῶν μέγιστε βασιλεῦ Ἐλεάζαρ.
- 11 Ὡσπερ γὰρ ὁ πατὴρ Ἀαρὼν τῷ θυμιατηρίῳ καθωπλισμένος, διὰ τοῦ ἔθνοπλήθους ἐπιτρέχων τὸν ἐμπυριστὴν ἐνίκησεν ἄγγελον. Οὕτως ὁ Ἀαρωνίδης Ἐλεάζαρος διὰ τοῦ πυρὸς ὑπερτη-
12 κόμενος οὐ μετετράπη τὸν λογισμόν. Καίτοι τὸ θαυμασιώτατον, γέρων ὢν, λελυμένων μὲν ἤδη τῶν τοῦ σώματος πόνων, καὶ περιεχαλασμένων δὲ τῶν σαρκῶν, κεκμηκότων δὲ καὶ τῶν
13 νεύρων, ἀνενέασεν. Τῷ πνεύματι τοῦ λογισμοῦ, καὶ τῷ
14 Ἰσακίῳ λογισμῷ τὴν πολυκέφαλον στρέβλαν ἠκύρωσεν. Ὡ μακαρίου γήρως, καὶ σεμνῆς πολιᾶς, καὶ βίου νομίμον, ὃν
15 πιστὴ θανάτου σφραγὶς ἐτελείωσεν. Εἰ δὲ τοίνυν γέρων τῶν μέχρι θανάτου βασάνων περιεφρόνησεν δι' εὐσέβειαν, ὁμολογουμένως ἡγεμὼν ἐστὶν τῶν παθῶν ὁ εὐσεβὴς λογισμός.
- 17 Ἴσως δ' ἂν εἰποῖεν τινες, τῶν παθῶν οὐ πάντες περικρατοῦ-
18 σιν, ὅτι οὐδὲ πάντες φρόνιμον ἔχουσιν τὸν λογισμόν. Ἀλλ' ὅσοι εὐσεβείας προνοοῦσιν ἐξ ὅλης καρδίας, οὗτοι μόνοι δύναν-
19 ται κρατεῖν τῶν τῆς σαρκὸς παθῶν· οἱ πιστεύοντες, ὅτι Θεῷ οὐκ ἀποθνήσκουσιν, ὥσπερ γὰρ οἱ πατριάρχαι ἡμῶν Ἀβραὰμ, Ἰσαὰκ, Ἰακώβ, ζῶσι τῷ Θεῷ.
- 20 Οὐδὲν οὖν ἐναντιοῦται τὸ φαίνεσθαι τινὰς παθοκρατεῖσθαι
21 διὰ τὸν ἀσθενῆ λογισμόν. Ἐπεὶ τίς πρὸς ὅλον τὸν τῆς φιλοσοφίας κανόνα εὐσεβῶς φιλοσοφῶν, καὶ πεπιστευκῶς
22 Θεῷ, καὶ εἰδὼς ὅτι διὰ τὴν ἀρετὴν πάντα πόνον ὑπομένειν μακαρίον ἐστίν, οὐκ ἂν περικρατήσκειν τῶν παθῶν διὰ τὴν
23 εὐσέβειαν; μόνος γὰρ ὁ σοφὸς καὶ σώφρων ἀνδρείος ἐστὶν
24 τῶν παθῶν κύριος. Διὰ τοῦτο γέ τοι καὶ μεираκίσκοι τῷ τῆς

reasoning has not only mastered pains, but that it is also superior to the pleasures, and withstands them.

The reasoning of our father Eleazar, like a first-rate pilot, steering the vessel of piety in the sea of passions, and flouted by the threats of the tyrant, and overwhelmed with the breakers of torture, in no way shifted the rudder of piety till it sailed into the harbour of victory over death.

Not so has ever a city, when besieged, held out against many and various machines, as did that holy man, when his pious soul was tried with the fiery trial of tortures and rackings, move his besiegers through the religious reasoning that shielded him. For father Eleazar, projecting his disposition, broke the raging waves of the passions as with a jutting promontory.

O priest, worthy of the priesthood! thou didst not pollute thy sacred teeth; nor make thy appetite, which had always embraced the clean and lawful, a partaker of profanity. O harmonizer with the law, and sage devoted to a divine life! Of such a character ought those to be who perform the duties of the law at the risk of their own blood, and defend it with generous sweat by sufferings even unto death.

Thou, father, hast gloriously established our right government by thy endurance; and making of much account our service past, prevented its destruction, and, by thy deeds, hast made credible the words of philosophy. O aged man of more power than tortures, elder more vigorous than fire, greatest king over the passions, Eleazar!

For as father Aaron, armed with a censer, hastening through the consuming fire, vanquished the flame-bearing angel, so Eleazar, the descendant of Aaron, wasted away by the fire, did not give up his reasoning. And, what is most wonderful, though an old man, though the labours of his body were now spent, and his fibres were relaxed, and his sinews worn out, he recovered youth. By the spirit of reasoning, and the reasoning of Isaac, he rendered powerless the many-headed instrument. O blessed old age, and reverend hoar head, and life obedient to the law, which the faithful seal of death perfected. If, then, an old man, through religion, despised tortures even unto death, confessedly religious reasoning is ruler of the passions.

But perhaps some might say, It is not all who conquer passions, as all do not possess wise reasoning. But they who have meditated upon religion with their whole heart, these alone can master the passions of the flesh: they who believe that to God they die not; for, as our forefathers, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, they live to God.

This circumstance, then, is by no means an objection, that some who have weak reasoning, are governed by their passions: since what person, walking religiously by the whole rule of philosophy, and believing in God, and knowing that it is a blessed thing to endure all kinds of hardships for virtue, would not, for the sake of religion, master his passion? For the wise and brave man only is lord over his passions. Whence it is, that even boys,

imbued with the philosophy of religious reasoning, have conquered still more bitter tortures: ²⁵for when the tyrant was manifestly vanquished in his first attempt, in being unable to force the old man to eat the unclean thing,—

Then, indeed, vehemently swayed with passion, he commanded to bring others of the adult Hebrews, and if they would eat of the unclean thing, to let them go when they had eaten; but if they objected, to torment them more grievously.

²The tyrant having given this charge, seven brethren were brought into his presence, along with their aged mother, handsome, and modest, and well-born, and altogether comely. ³Whom, when the tyrant beheld, encircling their mother as in a dance, he was pleased at them; and being struck with their becoming and ingenuous mien, smiled upon them, and calling them near, said,

⁴O youths, with favourable feelings, I admire the beauty of each of you; and greatly honouring so numerous a band of brethren, I not only counsel you not to share the madness of the old man who has been tortured before, ⁵but I do beg you to yield, and to enjoy my friendship; for I possess the power, not only of punishing those who disobey my commands, but of doing good to those who obey them.

⁶Put confidence in me, then, and you shall receive places of authority in my government, if you forsake your national ordinance, ⁷and, conforming to the Greek mode of life, alter your rule, and revel in youth's delights. ⁸For if you provoke me by your disobedience, you will compel me to destroy you, every one, with terrible punishments by tortures. ⁹Have mercy, then, upon your own selves, whom I, although an enemy, compassionate for your age and comeliness. ¹⁰Will you not reason upon this—that if you disobey, there will be nothing left for you but to die in tortures?

¹¹Thus speaking, he ordered the instruments of torture to be brought forward, that very fear might prevail upon them to eat unclean meat. ¹²And when the spearman brought forward the wheels, and the racks, and hooks, and catapeltæ, and caldrons, pans, and finger-racks, and iron hands, and wedges, and bellows, the tyrant continued: ¹³Fear, young men, and the Righteousness which ye worship will be merciful to you if you err from compulsion. ¹⁴Now they having listened to these words of persuasion, and seeing the fearful instruments, not only were not afraid, but even answered the arguments of the tyrant, and through their good reasoning destroyed his power.

¹⁵Now let us consider the matter: had any of them been weak-spirited and cowardly among them, what reasonings would they have employed but such as these? ¹⁶O wretched that we are, and exceeding senseless! when the king exhorts us, and calls us to his bounty, should we not obey him? ¹⁷Why do we cheer ourselves with vain counsels, and venture upon a disobedience bringing death? ¹⁸Shall we not fear, O brethren, the instruments of torture, and weigh the threatenings of torment, and shun this vain-glory and destructive pride?

εὐσεβείας λογισμῷ φιλοσοφούντες χαλεπωτέρων βασανιστηρίων ἐπεκράτησαν. Ἐπειδὴ γὰρ κατὰ τὴν πρώτην πείραν ²⁵ ἐνικήθη περιφανῆς ὁ τύραννος, μὴ δυνηθεὶς ἀναγκάσαι γέροντα μαιροφαγήσαι.

Τὸ δὲ δὴ σφόδρα περιπαθῶς ἐκέλευσεν ἄλλους ἐκ τῆς ἡλικίας ⁸ τῶν Ἑβραίων ἀγαγεῖν· καὶ εἰ μὲν μieroφαγήσαιεν, ἀπολύειν φάγοντας· εἰ δὲ ἀντιλέγοιεν, πικρότερον βασανίζειν.

Ταῦτα διαδεξαμένου τοῦ τυράννου, παρήσαν ἀγόμενοι μετὰ ² γηραιᾶς μητρὸς ἑπτὰ ἀδελφοὶ, καλοὶ τε καὶ αἰδήμονες καὶ γενναῖοι καὶ ἐν παντὶ χαρίεντες. Οὓς ἰδὼν ὁ τύραννος καθά- ³ περ ἐν χορῷ περιέχοντας μέσσην τὴν μητέρα, ἦσθετο ἐπ' αὐτοῖς, καὶ τῆς εὐπρεπείας ἐκπλαγεὶς καὶ τῆς εὐγενείας προσεμερίδασεν αὐτοῖς, καὶ πλησίον καλέσας, ἔφη,

ὦ νεανίαί φιλοφρόνως ἐγὼ καθ' ἐνὸς ἐκάστου ὑμῶν θαυμάζω ⁴ τὸ κάλλος· καὶ τὸ πλήθος τοσούτων ἀδελφῶν ὑπερτιμῶν, οὐ μόνον συμβουλεύω μὴ μανῆναι τὴν αὐτὴν τῷ προβασανισθέντι γέροντι μανίαν· ἀλλὰ καὶ παρακαλῶ συνείξαντας τῆς ἐμῆς ⁵ ἀπολαῦσαι φιλίας· δυναίμην γὰρ ὥσπερ κολάζειν τοὺς ἀπειθοῦντάς μου τοῖς ἐπιτάγμασιν, οὕτως καὶ εὐεργετεῖν τοὺς εὐπειθοῦντάς μου.

Πιστεύσατε οὖν, καὶ ἀρχὰς ἐπὶ τῶν ἐμῶν πραγμάτων ἡγε- ⁶ μονικὰς λήψεσθε, ἀρνησάμενοι τὸν πάτριον ἡμῶν τῆς πολιτείας θεσμόν· καὶ μεταλαβόντες Ἑλληνικοῦ βίον, καὶ μεταδιατη- ⁷ θέντες ἐντρυφήσατε ταῖς νεότησιν ὑμῶν. Ἐπεὶ ἐὰν ὀργίλως ⁸ με διάθησθε διὰ τῆς ἀπειθείας ὑμῶν, ἀναγκάσετέ με ἐπὶ δειναῖς κολάσεσιν ἕνα ἕκαστον ὑμῶν διὰ τῶν βασάνων ἀπολέσαι. Κατελεῖσατε οὖν ἑαυτοὺς, οὓς καὶ ὁ πολέμιος ἔγωγε καὶ τῆς ⁹ ἡλικίας καὶ τῆς εὐμορφίας οἰκτείρομαι. Οὐ διαλογιεῖσθε τοῦτο, ¹⁰ ὅτι οὐδὲν ὑμῖν ἀπειθήσασιν πλὴν τοῦ μετὰ στρεβλῶν ἀποθανεῖν ἀπόκειται;

Ταῦτα δὲ λέγων, ἐκέλευσεν εἰς τὸ ἔμπροσθεν προτεθῆναι τὰ ¹¹ βασανιστήρια, ὅπως καὶ διὰ τοῦ φόβου πείσειεν αὐτοὺς μiero- φαγήσαι. Ὡς δὲ τροχοὺς τε καὶ ἀρθενβόλους στρεβλωτήρια, ¹² καὶ τροχαντήρας καὶ καταπέλτας καὶ λέβητας, τήγανά τε καὶ δακτυλήθρας, καὶ χεῖρας σιδηρᾶς καὶ σφήνας, καὶ τὰ ζώπυρα τοῦ πυρὸς οἱ δορυφόροι προέθησαν, ὑπολαβὼν δὲ ὁ τύραννος, ἔφη, μεράκια φοβήθητε, καὶ ἦν σέβεσθε δίκην, ἵλεως ὑμῖν ¹³ ἔσται δι' ἀνάγκην παρανομήσασιν. Οἱ δὲ ἀκούσαντες ἐπαγωγὰ, ¹⁴ καὶ ὁρῶντες δεινὰ, οὐ μόνον οὐκ ἐφοβήθησαν, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀντεφιλοσόφησαν τῷ τυράννῳ, καὶ διὰ τῆς εὐλογιστίας τὴν τυραννίδα αὐτοῦ κατέλυσαν.

Καὶ τοι λογισώμεθα· εἰ δειλόψυχοι τινες ἦσαν, καὶ ἄνδρoι ¹⁵ ἐν αὐτοῖς, ποίοις ἂν ἐχρήσαντο λόγοις; οὐχὶ τούτοις; ὦ τάλανες ἡμεῖς, καὶ λίαν ἀνόητοι βασιλέως ἡμᾶς παρακα- ¹⁶ λούντος, καὶ ἐπὶ εὐεργεσίᾳ φωνούντος, μὴ πεισθειήμεν αὐτῷ; Τί βουλήμασιν κενοῖς ἑαυτοὺς εὐφραίνομεν, καὶ θανατηφόρον ¹⁷ ἀπείθειαν τολμῶμεν; Οὐ φοβησόμεθα, ἄνδρες ἀδελφοί, τὰ ¹⁸ βασανιστήρια, καὶ λογιούμεθα τὰς τῶν βασάνων ἀπειλὰς, καὶ φευξόμεθα τὴν κενοδοξίαν ταύτην καὶ ὀλεθροφόρον ἀλαζονείαν;

19 Ἐλεήσωμεν τὰς ἑαυτῶν ἡλικίας, καὶ κατοικτειρήσωμεν τὸ τῆς
 20 μητρὸς γῆρας· καὶ ἐνθυμηθῶμεν, ὅτι ἀπειθοῦντες τεθνηξόμεθα.
 21 Συγγνώσεται δὲ ἡμῖν καὶ ἡ θεία δίκη δι' ἀνάγκην τὸν βασιλέα
 22 φοβηθεῖσιν. Τί ἐξάγομεν ἑαυτοὺς τοῦ ἡδίστου βίου, καὶ
 23 ἐπιστεροῦμεν ἑαυτοὺς τοῦ γλυκέος κόσμου; Μὴ βιαζόμεθα τὴν
 24 ἀνάγκην, μηδὲ κενοδοξήσωμεν ἐπὶ τῇ ἑαυτῶν στρέβλῃ. Οὐδὲ
 αὐτὸς ὁ ναὸς ἐκουσίως ἡμᾶς θανατοῖ φοβηθέντας τὰ βασανισ-
 25 τήρια. Πόθεν ἡμῖν ἡ τοσαύτη ἐντέτηκεν φιλονεικία, καὶ ἡ
 θανατεφόρος ἀρέσκει καρτερία, παρὸν μετὰ ἀταραξίας χρὴ τῷ
 βασιλεῖ πεισθέντας;
 26 Ἀλλὰ τούτων οὐδὲν εἶπον οἱ νεανίαί βασανίζεσθαι μέλλον-
 27 τες, οὐδὲ ἐνεθυμήθησαν. Ἦσαν γὰρ περίφρονες τῶν παθῶν,
 καὶ αὐτηκράτορες τῶν ἀλγηδόνων. Ὡστε ἅμα τῷ παύσασθαι
 τὸν τύραννον συμβουλευόντα αὐτοῖς μieroφαγήσαι, πάντες διὰ
 μιᾶς φωνῆς ὁμοῦ, ὥσπερ ἀπὸ τῆς αὐτῆς ψυχῆς, εἶπον,
 9 Τί μέλλεις, ὦ τύραννε; ἔτοιμοι γάρ ἐσμεν ἀποθνήσκειν, ἢ
 2 παραβαίνειν τὰς πατρίους ἡμῶν ἐντολάς. Καὶ αἰσχυρόμεθα
 γὰρ τοὺς προγόνους εἰκότως, εἰ μὴ τῇ τοῦ νόμου εὐπειθείᾳ καὶ
 συμβούλῳ γνώσει χρῆσάμεθα.
 3 Σύμβουλε τύραννε παρανομίας, μὴ ἡμᾶς μισῶν ὑπὲρ αὐτοὺς
 4 ἡμᾶς ἐλέα. Χαλεπώτερον γὰρ αὐτοὺς τοῦ θανάτου νομίζομεν
 5 εἶναι σου τὸν ἐπὶ τῇ παρανόμῳ σωτηρία ἡμῶν ἔλεον. Ἐκφο-
 βεῖς δὲ ἡμᾶς, τὸν διὰ τῶν βασάνων ἡμῖν θάνατον ἀπειλῶν,
 6 ὥσπερ οὐχὶ πρὸ βραχέως παρὰ Ἐλεαζάρου μιθῶν. Εἰ δ' οἱ
 γέροντες τῶν Ἑβραίων διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν καὶ βασανισμοὺς
 ὑπομείναντες ἀπέθανον, ἀποθάνοιμεν ἂν δικαιότερον ἡμεῖς οἱ
 νέοι, τὰς βασάνους τῶν σῶν ἀναγκῶν ὑπεριδόντες, ἃς καὶ ὁ
 παιδευτὴς γέρων ἐνίκησεν.
 7 Πείραζε γαρὺν τύραννε· καὶ τὰς ἡμῶν ψυχὰς εἰ θανατώσεις
 διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν, μὴ νομίσης ἡμᾶς βλάπτειν βασανίζων.
 8 Ἡμεῖς μὲν γὰρ διὰ τῆσδε τῆς κακοπαθείας καὶ ὑπομονῆς, τὰ
 9 τῆς ἀρετῆς ἄθλα οἴσομεν. Σὺ δὲ διὰ τὴν ἡμῶν μιαιοφονίαν
 αὐτάρχη καρτερήσεις περὶ τῆς θείας δίκης αἰώνιον βάσανον διὰ
 πυρός.
 10 Ταῦτα αὐτῶν εἰπόντων, οὐ μόνον ὡς κατὰ ἀπειθούντων ἔχα-
 λέπαιεν ὁ τύραννος, ἀλλ' ὡς καὶ κατὰ ἀχαρίστων ὠργίσθη.
 11 Ὅθεν τὸν πρεσβύτατον αὐτῶν κελυθέντες παρήγαγον οἱ
 μαστισταί, καὶ διαρρήξαντες τὸν χιτῶνα διέδησαν τὰς χεῖρας
 12 αὐτοῦ καὶ τοὺς βραχίονας ἱμάσιν ἐκατέρωθεν. Ὡς δὲ τύπτοντες
 ταῖς μαστιξίν ἐκοπίασαν, μηδὲν ἀνύοντες, ἀνέβαλον αὐτὸν ἐπὶ
 13 τὸν τροχόν. Περὶ δὲ κατατεινόμενος ὁ εὐγενὴς νεανίας,
 14 ἔξαρθρος ἐγίνετο. Καὶ κατὰ πᾶν μέλος κλώμενος κατηγορεῖ,
 λέγων,
 15 Τύραννε μαιρώτατε, καὶ τῆς οὐρανίου δίκης ἐχθρὲ, καὶ
 ὁμόφρον, οὐκ ἀνδροφονήσαντά με τοῦτον κατακίσεις τὸν
 τρόπον, οὐδὲ ἀσεβήσαντα, ἀλλὰ θείου νόμου προασπίζοντα.
 16 Καὶ τῶν δορυφόρων λεγόντων, ὁμολόγησον φαγεῖν, ὅπως
 17 ἀπαλλαγῇς τῶν βασάνων, ὁ δὲ εἶπεν, οὐχ οὕτως ἰσχυρὸς
 ὑμῶν ἐστὶν ὁ τρόπος, ὅ μαιροὶ διάκονοι, ὥστε μου τὸν λογισμὸν
 ἄξαι τέμνετέ μου μέλη, καὶ πυροῦτε τὰς σάρκας, καὶ στρε-
 18 βλοῦτε τὰ ἄρθρα. Διὰ πασῶν γὰρ ὑμᾶς πείσω τῶν βασάνων
 ὅτι μόνοι παῖδες Ἑβραίων ὑπὲρ ἀρετῆς εἰσιν ἀνίκητοι.

¹⁹ Let us have compassion upon our age, and relent over the years of our mother. ²⁰ And let us bear in mind that we shall be dying as rebels. ²¹ And Divine Justice will pardon us if we fear the king through necessity. ²² Why withdraw ourselves from a most sweet life, and deprive ourselves of this pleasant world? ²³ Let us not oppose necessity, nor seek vain-glory by our own excruciation. ²⁴ The law itself is not forward to put us to death, if we dread torture. ²⁵ Whence has such angry zeal taken root in us, and such fatal obstinacy approved itself to us, when we might live unmolested by giving ear to the king?

²⁶ But nothing of this kind did the young men say or think when about to be tortured. ²⁷ For they were well aware of the sufferings, and masters of the pains. So that as soon as the tyrant had ceased counselling them to eat the unclean, they altogether with one voice, as from the same heart, said:

Why delayest thou, O tyrant? for we are readier to die than to transgress the injunctions of our fathers. ² And we should be disgracing our fathers if we did not obey the law, and take knowledge for our guide.

³ O tyrant, counsellor of law-breaking, do not, hating us as thou dost, pity us more than we pity ourselves. ⁴ For we account your pity of us on the terms of unlawful escape to be worse than death. ⁵ And you think to scare us, by threatening us with death by tortures, as though thou hadst learned nothing by the death of Eleazar. ⁶ But if aged men of the Hebrews have died in the cause of religion after enduring torture, more rightly should we younger men die, scorning your cruel tortures, which our aged instructor overcame.

⁷ Make the attempt, then, O tyrant; and if thou puttest us to death for our religion, think not that thou harmest us by torturing us. ⁸ For we through this ill-treatment and endurance shall bear off the rewards of virtue. ⁹ But you, for the wicked and despotie slaughter of us, shalt, from the Divine vengeance, endure eternal torture by fire.

¹⁰ When they had thus spoken, the tyrant was not only exasperated against them as being refractory, but enraged with them as being ungrateful. ¹¹ So that, at his bidding, the torturers brought forth the eldest of them, and tearing through his tunic, bound his hands and arms on each side with thongs. ¹² And when they had laboured hard without effect in scourging him, they hurled him upon the wheel. ¹³ And the noble youth, extended upon this, became dislocated. ¹⁴ And with every member disjoined, he exclaimed in expostulation,

¹⁵ O most accursed tyrant, and enemy of heavenly justice, and cruel-hearted, I am no murderer, nor sacrilegious man, whom thou thus ill-usest; but a defender of the Divine law. ¹⁶ And when the spearmen said, Consent to eat, that you may be released from your tortures,—¹⁷ he answered, Not so powerful, O accursed ministers, is your wheel, as to stifle my reasoning; cut my limbs, and burn my flesh, and twist my joints. ¹⁸ For through all my torments I will convince you that the children of the Hebrews are alone unconquered in behalf of virtue.

¹⁹ While he was saying this, they heaped up fuel, and setting fire to it, strained him upon the wheel still more. ²⁰ And the wheel was defiled all over with blood, and the hot ashes were quenched by the droppings of gore, and pieces of flesh were scattered about the axles of the machine.

²¹ And although the framework of his bones was now destroyed, the high-minded and Abrahamic youth did not groan. ²² But, as though transformed by fire into immortality, he nobly endured the rackings, saying, ²³ Imitate me, O brethren, nor ever desert your station, nor abjure my brotherhood in courage: fight the holy and honourable fight of religion; ²⁴ by which means our just and paternal Providence, becoming merciful to the nation, will punish the pestilent tyrant. ²⁵ And saying this, the revered youth abruptly closed his life.

²⁶ And when all admired his courageous soul, the spearmen brought forward him who was second in point of age, and having put on iron hands, bound him with pointed hooks to the catapult. ²⁷ And when, on enquiring whether he would eat before he was tortured, they heard his noble sentiment, ²⁸ after they with the iron hands had violently dragged all the flesh from the neck to the chin, the panther-like beasts tore off the very skin of his head: but he, bearing with firmness this misery, said, ²⁹ How sweet is every form of death for the religion of our fathers! and he said to the tyrant,

³⁰ Thinkest thou not, most cruel of all tyrants, that thou art now tortured more than I, finding thy overweening conception of tyranny conquered by our patience in behalf of our religion? ³¹ For I lighten my suffering by the pleasures which are connected with virtue. ³² But thou art tortured with threatenings for impiety; and thou shalt not escape, most corrupt tyrant, the vengeance of Divine wrath.

Now this one, having endured this praiseworthy death, the third was brought along, and exhorted by many to taste and save his life. ² But he cried out and said, Know ye not, that the father of those who are dead, begat me also; and that the same mother bare me; and that I was brought up in the same tenets? ³ I abjure not the noble relationship of my brethren. ⁴ Now then, whatever instrument of vengeance ye have, apply it to my body, for ye are not able to touch, even if ye wish it, my soul.

⁵ But they, highly incensed at his boldness of speech, dislocated his hands and feet with racking engines, and wrenching them from their sockets, dismembered him. ⁶ And they dragged round his fingers, and his arms, and his legs, and his ankles. ⁷ And not being able by any means to strangle him, they tore off his skin, together with the extreme tips of his fingers, flayed him, and then haled him to the wheel; ⁸ around which his vertebral joints were loosened, and he saw his own flesh torn to shreds, and streams of blood flowing from his entrails. ⁹ And when about to die, he said, ¹⁰ We, O accursed tyrant, suffer this for the sake of Divine education and virtue. ¹¹ But thou, for thy impiety and blood-shedding, shalt endure indissoluble torments.

¹² And thus having died worthily of his

Ταῦτα λέγοντες εἰς πῦρ ἐπέτρωσαν, καὶ διερεθίζοντες, τὸν 19 τροχὸν προσεπικατέτεινον. Ἐμολύνετο δὲ πάντοθεν αἵματι 20 ὁ τροχός, καὶ ὁ σωρὸς τῆς ἀνθρακίᾳς τοῖς τῶν ἰχώρων ἐσβέννυτο σταλαγμοῖς, καὶ περὶ τοὺς αὐξόνας τοῦ ὀργάνου περιέβρεον αἱ σάρκες.

Καὶ περιτετηκμένον ἤδη ἔχων τὸ τῶν ὀστέων πῆγμα ὁ μεγα- 21 λόφρων καὶ Ἀβραμιαῖος νεανίας οὐκ ἐστέναξεν. Ἄλλ' ὥσπερ 22 ἐν πυρὶ μετασχηματιζόμενος εἰς ἀφθαρσίαν, ὑπέμεινεν εὐγενῶς τὰς στρέβλας. Μιμήσασθέ με, ἀδελφοὶ, λέγων· μὴ μου τὸν 23 αἰῶνα λειποτακτήσητε, μηδ' ἐξομότησθέ μου τὴν τῆς εὐψυχίας ἀδελφότητα· ἱερὰν καὶ εὐγενῆ στρατείαν στρατεύσασθε περὶ τῆς εὐσεβείας. Δι' ἧς ἰλεως ἡ δικαία καὶ πατριος ἡμῶν πρόνοια 24 τῷ ἔθνει γενηθεῖσα τιμωρήσειεν τὸν ἀλάστορα τύραννον. Καὶ 25 ταῦτα εἰπὼν ὁ ἱεροπρεπὴς νεανίας, ἀπέρρηξεν τὴν ψυχὴν.

Θαυμασάντων δὲ πάντων τὴν καρτεροψυχίαν αὐτοῦ, ἦγον οἱ 26 δορυφόροι τὸν καθ' ἡλικίαν τῷ προτέρῳ δεύτερον, καὶ σιδηρᾶς ἐναρμοσάμενοί χεῖρας, ὀξέσιν τοῖς ὄνυσιν, τοῖς ὀργάνοις καταπέλτῃ προσέδωσαν αὐτόν. Ὡς δὲ, εἰ φαγεῖν βούλοιτο πρὶν 27 βασανίζεσθαι πυνθανόμενοι, τὴν εὐγενῆ γνώμην ἤκουσαν ἀπὸ τῶν τενόντων ταῖς σιδηραῖς χερσὶν ἐπισπασάμενοι, μέχρι 28 γε τῶν γενείων τὴν σάρκα πᾶσαν καὶ τὴν τῆς κεφαλῆς δορὰν οἱ παρδάλαιοι θῆρες ἀπέσυραν· ὁ δὲ ταύτην βαρέως τὴν ἀλγηδόνα καρτερῶν, ἔλεγεν, Ὡς ἡδὺς πᾶς τρόπος θανάτου, διὰ 29 τὴν πατριον ἡμῶν εὐσέβειαν· ἔφη τε πρὸς τὸν τύραννον,

Οὐ δοκεῖς, πάντων ὀμότετε τύραννε, πλείων ἐμοῦ σε νῦν 30 βασανίζεσθαι, ὁρῶν σου νικώμενον τὸν τῆς τυραννίδος ὑπερήφανον λογισμὸν ὑπὸ τῆς διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν ἡμῶν ὑπομονῆς. Ἐγὼ μὲν γὰρ ταῖς διὰ τὴν ἀρετὴν ἡδοναῖς τὸν πόνον ἐπικουφί- 31 ζομαι. Σὺ δὲ ἐν ταῖς τῆς ἀσεβείας ἀπειλαῖς βασανίζῃ· οὐκ 32 ἐκφεύξῃ δὲ, μαιρότατε τύραννε, τὰς τῆς θείας ὀργῆς δίκας.

Καὶ τούτου τὸν αἰοίδιμον θάνατον καρτερήσαντος, ὁ τρίτος 10 ἦγετο, παρακαλούμενος πολλὰ ὑπὸ πολλῶν ὅπως ἀπογευσάμενος σώζοιτο. Ὁ δὲ ἀναβοήσας, ἔφη, ἡ ἀγνοεῖτε, ὅτι αὐτός με τοῖς 2 ἀποθανοῦσιν ἔσπειρεν πατὴρ, καὶ ἡ αὐτὴ μήτηρ ἐγέννεσιν, καὶ ἐπὶ τοῖς αὐτοῖς ἀνετράφην δόγμασιν; Οὐκ ἐξόμνυμαι τὴν εὐγενῆ 3 τῆς ἀδελφότητος συγγένειαν. Πρὸς ταῦτα εἴ τι ἔχετε κολαστή- 4 ριον προσαγάγετε τῷ σώματί μου· τῆς γὰρ ψυχῆς μου, οὐδ' ἂν θέλητε, ἄψασθαι δύνασθε.

Οἱ δὲ πικρῶς ἐνέγκαντες τὴν παρρησίαν τοῦ ἀνδρός, 5 ἀρθρεμβόλοις ὀργάνοις τὰς χεῖρας αὐτοῦ καὶ τοὺς πόδας ἐξήρ- θρουν, καὶ ἐξ ἀρμῶν ἀναμοχλεύοντες ἐξεμέλιζον· καὶ τοὺς 6 δακτύλους, καὶ τοὺς βραχίονας, καὶ τὰ σκέλη, καὶ τοὺς ἀγκῶνας περιέλκων. Καὶ κατὰ μηδένα τρόπον ἰσχύοντες αὐτὸν ἄγξαι, 7 περισύραντες τὸ δέρμα σὺν ἄκραις ταῖς τῶν δακτύλων κορυφαῖς ἀπescύθιζον, καὶ εὐθέως ἦγον ἐπὶ τὸν τροχόν. Περὶ ὃν ἐκ σφον- 8 δύλων ἐκμελιζόμενος ἑώρα τὰς ἑαυτοῦ σάρκας περιλακίζόμενας καὶ κατὰ σπλάγχνων σταγόνας αἵματος ἀπορρέουσας. Μέλ- 9 λων δὲ ἀποθνήσκειν, ἔφη, ἡμεῖς μὲν ὧ μαιρώτατε τύραννε, 10 διὰ παιδείαν καὶ ἀρετὴν Θεοῦ ταῦτα πάσχομεν. Σὺ δὲ διὰ τὴν 11 ἀσεβειαν καὶ μαιφονίαν, ἀκαταλύτους καρτερήσεις βασάνους.

Καὶ τούτου θανόντος ἀδελφοπρεπῶς, τὸν τέταρτον ἐπεσπώιτο, 12

13 λέγοντες, Μὴ μανῆς καὶ σὺ τοῖς ἀδελφοῖς σου τὴν αὐτὴν
14 μανίαν· ἀλλὰ πεισθεὶς τῷ βασιλεῖ, σῶζε σεαυτόν. Ὁ δὲ αὐτοῖς
ἔφη, οὐχ οὕτως καυστικώτερον ἔχετε κατ' ἐμοῦ τὸ πῦρ, ὥστε με
15 δειλανδρῆσαι. Μὰ τὸν μακάριον τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου θάνατον,
καὶ τὸν αἰώνιον τοῦ τυράννου ὄλεθρον, καὶ τὸν αἰδιδίμον τῶν
16 εὐσεβῶν βίον, οὐκ ἀρνήσομαι τὴν εὐγενῆ ἀδελφότητα. Ἐπινόει,
τύραννε, βασάνους· ἵνα καὶ διὰ τούτων μάθῃς, ὅτι ἀδελφός εἰμι
τῶν προβεβασισθέντων.

17 Ταῦτα ἀκούσας ὁ αἰμοβόρος καὶ φονόδης καὶ πανμιαρῶ-
τατος Ἀντίοχος, ἐκέλευσεν τὴν γλῶτταν αὐτοῦ ἐκτεμεῖν.
18 Ὁ δὲ ἔφη, κἂν ἀφέλῃς τὸ τῆς φωνῆς ὄργανον, καὶ σιωπώντων
19 ἀκούει ὁ Θεός. Ἰδοὺ κεχάλασται ἡ γλῶσσα· τέμνε· οὐ γὰρ παρὰ
20 τοῦτο τὸν λογισμόν ἡμῶν γλωσσοτομήσεις. Ἡδέως ὑπὲρ τοῦ
21 Θεοῦ τὰ τοῦ σώματος μέλη ἀκρωτηριαζόμενα. Σὲ δὲ ταχέως
μετελεύσεται ὁ Θεός· τὴν γὰρ τῶν θείων ὕμνων μελωδὸν γλῶτταν
ἐκτέμνεις.

11 Ὡς δὲ καὶ οὗτος ταῖς βασάνοις κατακισθεὶς ἐναπέθανεν, ὁ
πέμπτος παρεπήδησεν, λέγων,

2 Οὐ μέλλω, τύραννε, πρὸς τὸν ὑπὲρ τῆς ἀρετῆς βασανισμόν
3 παραιτεῖσθαι. Αὐτὸς δ' ἀπ' ἐμαυτοῦ παρήλθον, ὅπως καὶ με
κατακτείνας, περὶ πλειόνων ἀδικημάτων ὀφειλήσης τῇ οὐρανίῳ
4 δίκῃ τιμωρίαν. Ὡ μισάρετε καὶ μισάνθρωπε, τί δράσαντας ἡμᾶς
5 τοῦτον πορθεῖς τὸν τρόπον; Ἡ κακόν σοι δοκεῖ, ὅτι τὸν πάντων
κτιστὴν εὐσεβοῦμεν, καὶ κατὰ τὸν ἐνάρετον αὐτοῦ ζῶμεν νόμον;
6, 7 Ἀλλὰ ταῦτα τιμῶν, οὐ βασάνων ἐστὶν ἄξια. Εἵπερ ἡσθάνου
ἀνθρώπου πόθων, καὶ ἐλπίδα εἶχες παρὰ Θεῷ σωτηρίου·
8 νῦν ἰδὲ ἀλλότριος ὢν Θεοῦ, πολεμεῖς τοὺς εὐσεβοῦντας εἰς τὸν
Θεόν.

9 Τοιαῦτα λέγοντα οἱ δορυφόροι δῆσαντες, αὐτὸν εἵλκον ἐπὶ
10 τὸν καταπέλτην· ἐφ' ὃ δῆσαντες αὐτὸν ἐπὶ τὰ γόνατα, καὶ
ταῦτα ποδάγραις σιδηραῖς ἐφορμάσαντες τὴν ὀσφύν αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ
τὸν τροχιαῖον σφῆνα κατέκαμψαν· περὶ δὲ ὅλος ἐπὶ τὸν τρο-
11 νὸν σκορπίου τρόπον ἀνακλώμενος ἐξεμελίζετο. Κατὰ τοῦτον
τὸν τρόπον καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα στενοχωρούμενος, καὶ τὸ σῶμα
12 ἀγχόμενος, καλὰς, ἔλεγεν, ἄκων, ὦ τύραννε, χάριτας ἡμῖν
χαρίζῃ διὰ γενναιότερων πόνων ἐπιδείξασθαι παρέχων τὴν εἰς
τὸν νόμον ἡμῶν καρτερίαν.

13 Τελευτήσαντος δὲ καὶ τούτου, ὁ ἔκτος ἤγετο μειρακίσκος· ὃς
πυνθανομένου τοῦ τυράννου εἰ βούλοιο φαγῶν ἀπολύεσθαι, ὁ
δὲ ἔφη,

14 Ἐγὼ τῇ μὲν ἡλικίᾳ τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου εἰμὶ νεώτερος, τῇ
15 δὲ διανοίᾳ ἡλικιωτής. Εἰς τὰ αὐτὰ γὰρ καὶ γεννηθέντες καὶ
τραφέντες, ὑπὲρ τῶν αὐτῶν καὶ ἀποθνήσκειν ὀφείλομεν ὁμοίως.
16 Ὡστε εἰ σοὶ δοκεῖ βασανίζειν, μὴ μαιροφαγοῦντας βασάνιζε.

17, 18 Ταῦτα αὐτὸν εἰπόντα παρήγον ἐπὶ τὸν τροχόν. Ἐφ' οὗ κατα-
τεινόμενος εὐμελῶς καὶ ἐκσφονδυλιζόμενος ὑπεκαίετο. Καὶ
19 ὀβελίσκους ὀξεῖς πυρώσαντες, τοῖς νότοις προσέφερον· καὶ τὰ
πλευρὰ διαπείραντες, ἀπ' αὐτοῦ σπλάγχνα διέκαιον.

20 Ὁ δὲ βασανιζόμενος, ὦ ἱεροπρεποῦς αἰῶνος, ἔλεγεν, ἐφ' ὃν
διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν εἰς γυμνασίαν πόνων ἀδελφοὶ τοσοῦτοι
21 κληθέντες οὐκ ἐνίκηθημεν. Ἀνίκητος γάρ ἐστιν, ὦ τύραννε,

brethren, they dragged forward the fourth, saying,¹³ Do not thou share the madness of thy brethren: but give regard to the king, and save thyself. ¹⁴ But he said to them, You have not a fire so scorching as to make me play the coward. ¹⁵ By the blessed death of my brethren, and the eternal punishment of the tyrant, and the glorious life of the pious, I will not repudiate the noble brotherhood. ¹⁶ Invent, O tyrant, tortures; that you may learn, even through them, that I am the brother of those tormented before.

¹⁷ When he had said this, the blood-thirsty, and murderous, and unhallowed Antiochus ordered his tongue to be cut out. ¹⁸ But he said, Even if you take away the organ of speech, yet God hears the silent. ¹⁹ Behold, my tongue is extended, cut it off; for not for that shalt thou extirpate our reasoning. ²⁰ Gladly do we lose our limbs in behalf of God. ²¹ But God shall speedily find you, since you cut off the tongue, the instrument of divine melody.

And when he had died, disfigured in his torments, the fifth leaped forward, and said,

² I intend not, O tyrant, to get excused from the torment which is in behalf of virtue. ³ But I have come of my own accord, that by the death of me, you may owe heavenly vengeance a punishment for more crimes.

⁴ O thou hater of virtue and of men, what have we done that thou thus revellest in our blood? ⁵ Does it seem evil to thee that we worship the Founder of all things, and live according to his surpassing law? ⁶ But this is worthy of honours, not of torments; ⁷ hadst thou been capable of the higher feelings of men, and possessed the hope of salvation from God. ⁸ Behold, now, being alien from God, thou makest war against those who are religious toward God.

⁹ As he said this, the spearbearers bound him, and drew him to the catapult: ¹⁰ to which binding him at his knees, and fastening them with iron fetters, they bent down his loins upon the wedge of the wheel; and his body was then dismembered, scorpion-fashion. ¹¹ With his breath thus confined, and his body strangled, he said, ¹² A great favour thou bestowest upon us, O tyrant, by enabling us to manifest our adherence to the law by means of nobler sufferings.

¹³ He also being dead, the sixth, quite a youth, was brought out; and on the tyrant asking him whether he would eat and be delivered, he said,

¹⁴ I am indeed younger than my brothers, but in understanding I am as old; ¹⁵ for having been born and reared unto the same end, we are bound to die also in behalf of the same cause. ¹⁶ So that if you think proper to torment us for not eating the unclean;—torment!

¹⁷ As he said this, they brought him to the wheel. ¹⁸ Extended upon which, with limbs racked and dislocated, he was gradually roasted from beneath. ¹⁹ And having heated sharp spits, they approached them to his back; and having transfixed his sides, they burned away his entrails.

²⁰ And he, while tormented, said, O period good and holy, in which, for the sake of religion, we brothers have been called to the contest of pain, and have not been conquered. ²¹ For religious understanding,

O tyrant, is unconquered. ²² Armed with upright virtue, I also shall depart with my brethren. ²³ I, too, bearing with me a great avenger, O deviser of tortures, and enemy of the truly pious.

²⁴ We six youths have destroyed thy tyranny. ²⁵ For is not your inability to overrule our reasoning, and to compel us to eat the unclean, thy destruction? ²⁶ Your fire is cold to us, your catapults are painless, and your violence harmless. ²⁷ For the guards not of a tyrant but of a divine law are our defenders: through this we keep our reasoning unconquered.

When he, too, had undergone blessed martyrdom, and died in the caldron into which he had been thrown, the seventh, the youngest of all, came forward: ² whom the tyrant pitying, though he had been dreadfully reproached by his brethren, ³ seeing him already encompassed with chains, had him brought nearer, and endeavoured to counsel him, saying,

⁴ Thou seest the end of the madness of thy brethren: for they have died in torture through disobedience; and you, if disobedient, having been miserably tormented, will yourself perish prematurely. ⁵ But if you obey, you shall be my friend, and have a charge over the affairs of the kingdom.

⁶ And having thus exhorted him, he sent for the mother of the boy; that, by condoling with her for the loss of so many sons, he might incline her, through the hope of safety, to render the survivor obedient. ⁷ And he, after his mother had urged him on in the Hebrew tongue, (as we shall soon relate) says, ⁸ Release me, that I may speak to the king and all his friends. ⁹ And they, rejoicing exceedingly at the promise of the youth, quickly let him go.

¹⁰ And he, running up to the pans, said, ¹¹ Impious tyrant, and most blasphemous man, wert thou not ashamed, having received prosperity and a kingdom from God, to slay His servants, and to rack the doers of godliness? ¹² Wherefore the divine vengeance is reserving you for eternal fire and torments, which shall cling to you for all time.

¹³ Wert thou not ashamed, man as thou art, yet most savage, to cut out the tongues of men of like feeling and origin, and having thus abused to torture them? ¹⁴ But they, bravely dying, fulfilled their religion towards God. ¹⁵ But thou shalt groan according to thy deserts for having slain without cause the champions of virtue.

¹⁶ Wherefore, he continued, I myself, being about to die, ¹⁷ will not forsake the testimony of my brethren. ¹⁸ And I call upon the God of my fathers to be merciful to my race. ¹⁹ But thee, both living and dead, he will punish.

²⁰ Thus having prayed, he hurled himself into the pans; and so expired.

If then, the seven brethren despised troubles even unto death, it is confessed on all sides that righteous reasoning is absolute master over the passions. ² For just as if, had they as slaves to the passions eaten of the unholy, we should have said that they had been conquered by them; ³ now it is not so: but by means of the reasoning which is praised by God, they mastered their passions.

ἢ εὐσεβῆς ἐπιστήμη. Καλοκαγαθία καθωπλισμένος τεθνήξομαι ²² καὶ γὰρ μετὰ τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου. Μέγαν σοὶ προσβάλλον καὶ ²³ αὐτὸς ἀλάστορα, καινουργεῖ τῶν βασάνων, καὶ πολέμει τῶν ἀληθῶς εὐσεβούντων.

Ἐξ μεираκια κατελύσαμεν σου τὴν τυραννίδα. Τὸ γὰρ ²⁴ 25 μὴ δυνηθῆναί σε μεταπεῖσαι τὸν λογισμὸν ἡμῶν, μήτε βιάσασθαι πρὸς τὴν μαιροφαγίαν, οὐ κατάλυσίς ἐστιν σοῦ; Τὸ ²⁶ 26 πῦρ σου ψυχρὸν ἡμῖν, καὶ ἄπονοι οἱ καταπέλται, καὶ ἀδύνατος ἡ βία σου. Οὐ γὰρ τυράννου, ἀλλὰ θείου νόμου προεστήκασιν ²⁷ 27 ἡμῶν οἱ δορυφόροι· διὰ τοῦτο ἀνίκητον ἔχομεν τὸν λογισμόν.

Ὡς δὲ καὶ οὗτος μακαρίως ἐναπέθανεν καταβληθεὶς εἰς ¹² 12 λέβητα, ὃ ἔβδομος παρεγένετο, πάντων νεώτερος. Ὅν κατοικ- ² 2 κτειρήσας ὁ τύραννος, καίπερ δεινῶς ὑπὸ τῶν ἀδελφῶν αὐτοῦ κακισθεὶς, ὁρῶν ἤδη τὰ δεσμὰ περικείμενον, πλησιέστερον ³ 3 αὐτὸν μετεπέμψατο, καὶ παρηγορεῖν ἐπειράτο, λέγων,

Τῆς μὲν τῶν ἀδελφῶν σου ἀπονοίας τὸ τέλος ὁρᾷς· διὰ γὰρ ⁴ 4 ἀπειθείαν στρεβλωθέντες τεθνήκασιν, σὺ, εἰ μὲν μὴ πεισθείης, τάλας βασανισθεὶς καὶ αὐτὸς τεθνήξῃ πρὸ ὥρας. Πεισθεὶς ⁵ 5 δὲ φίλος ἔσῃ, καὶ τῶν ἐπὶ τῆς βασιλείας ἀφηγήσῃ πραγμάτων.

Καὶ ταῦτα παρακαλῶν, τὴν μητέρα τοῦ παιδὸς μετεπέμψατο, ⁶ 6 ὅπως αὐτὴν ἐμεήσας τοσούτων νύων στερηθείσαν παρορμήσειεν ἐπὶ τὴν σωτηρίαν, εὐπειθῇ ποιῆσαι τὸν περιλειπόμενον. Ὅ δὲ ⁷ 7 τῆς μητρὸς τῇ Ἑβραϊδὶ φωνῇ προτρεψαμένης αὐτὸν, (ὡς ἐροῦμεν μετὰ μικρὸν ὕστερον,) ἀπολύσατε με, φησὶν· εἴπω ⁸ 8 τῷ βασιλεῖ καὶ τοῖς σὺν αὐτῷ φίλοις πᾶσιν. Καὶ ἐπιχαρέντες ⁹ 9 μάλιστα ἐπὶ τῇ ἐπαγγελίᾳ τοῦ παιδὸς, ταχέως ἔλυσαν αὐτόν.

Καὶ δραμὼν ἐπὶ πλησίον τῶν τηγάνων, ἔφη, ἀνόσιε, φησὶν, ¹⁰ 10 καὶ πάντων τῶν πονηρῶν ἀσεβέστατε τύραννε, οὐκ ἡδέσθης παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ λαβὼν τὰ ἀγαθὰ καὶ τὴν βασιλείαν, τοὺς θεράποντας αὐτοῦ κατακτείνει, καὶ τοὺς τῆς εὐσεβείας ἀσκητὰς στρεβλῶσαι; Ἀνθ' ὧν ταμιεύεται σε ἡ θεία δίκη πυκνότερῳ ¹² 12 καὶ αἰωνίῳ πυρὶ καὶ βασάνοις, αἱ εἰς ὅλον τὸν αἰῶνα οὐκ ἀνήσουσίν σε.

Οὐκ ἡδέσθης ἄνθρωπος ὢν, θηριωδέστατε, τοὺς ὁμοιοπαθεῖς ¹³ 13 καὶ ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν γεγονότας στοιχείων γλωττοτομήσαι, καὶ τοῦτον καταικίσας τὸν τρόπον βασανίσαι; Ἀλλ' οἱ μὲν εὐγενῶς ¹⁴ 14 ἀποθανόντες ἐπλήρωσαν τὴν εἰς τὸν Θεὸν εὐσέβειαν. Σὺ δὲ ¹⁵ 15 κακὸς κακῶς οἰμῳξείς, τοὺς τῆς ἀρετῆς ἀγωνιστὰς ἀναιτίως ἀποκτείνει.

Ὅθεν καὶ αὐτὸς ἀποθνήσκειν μέλλων, ἔφη, οὐκ ἀπαν- ¹⁶ 16 τομολῶ τῆς τῶν ἀδελφῶν μου μαρτυρίας. Ἐπικαλοῦμαι δὲ ¹⁸ 18 τὸν πατρῶον Θεόν, ὅπως ἴλεως γένηται τῷ γένει μου. Σὺ δὲ ¹⁹ 19 καὶ ἐν τῷ νῦν βίῃ καὶ θανόντα τιμωρήσεται.

Καὶ ταῦτα κατευξάμενος, ἑαυτὸν ἔριψεν κατὰ τῶν τηγάνων· ²⁰ 20 καὶ οὕτως ἀπέδωκεν.

Εἰ δὲ τοίνυν τῶν μέχρι θανάτου πόνων ὑπερεφρόνησαν οἱ ¹³ 13 ἑπτὰ ἀδελφοί, συννομολογεῖται πανταχόθεν, ὅτι αὐτοδέσποτός ἐστιν τῶν παθῶν ὁ εὐσεβῆς λογισμός. Ὡσπερ γὰρ εἰ τοῖς ² 2 πάθεσιν δουλωθέντες ἐμιεροφάγησαν, ἐλέγομεν γὰρ αὐτοὺς τοῦτοις νενικῆσθαι. Νυνὶ δὲ οὐχ οὕτως· ἀλλὰ τῷ ἐπαινουμένῳ ³ 3 λογισμῷ παρὰ Θεῷ περιεγένοντο τῶν παθῶν.

- 4 Καὶ οὐκ ἐστὶν παριδεῖν τὴν ἡγεμονίαν τῆς διανοίας· ἐπεκρά-
5 τησεν γὰρ καὶ πάθους καὶ πόνων. Πῶς οὖν οὐκ ἐστὶν τούτοις
τὴν τῆς εὐλογιστίας παθοκράτειαν ὁμολογεῖν, οἱ τῶν μὲν διὰ
6 πυρὸς ἀλγηδόνων οὐκ ἐπεστράφησαν; Καθάπερ γὰρ προπλή-
ταις λιμένων πύργοις τὰς κυμάτων ἀπειλὰς ἀνακόπτοντες,
7 γαληνὸν παρέχουσιν τοῖς εἰσπλέουσιν τὸν ὄρμον. Οὗτος ἡ
ἐπτάπυργος τῶν νεανίσκων εὐλογιστία τὸν τῆς εὐσεβείας ὀχυ-
ρώσασα λιμένα τὴν τῶν παθῶν ἐνίκησεν ἀκολασίαν.
- 8 Ἱερὸν γὰρ εὐσεβείας στήσαντες χορὸν παρεθάρσυνον ἀλλή-
9 λους, λέγοντες, ἀδελφικῶς ἀποθάνοιμεν, ἀδελφοί, περὶ τοῦ
νόμου· μιμησώμεθα τοὺς τρεῖς τοὺς ἐπὶ τῆς Ἀσσυρίας νεανίς-
10 κους, οἱ τῆς ἰσπεόλιδος καμίνου κατεφρόνησαν. Μὴ δειλανδρή-
11 σωμεν πρὸς τὴν τῆς εὐσεβείας ἀπόδειξιν. Καὶ ὁ μὲν, θάρρει
12 ἀδελφε, ἔλεγεν, ὁ δὲ, εὐγενῶς καρτέρησον. Ὁ δὲ, ἔλεγεν,
μνήσθητε πόθεν ἐστὲ, ἢ τίνος πατρὸς χειρὶ σφαγιασθῆναι διὰ
τὴν εὐσέβειαν ὑπέμεινεν ὁ Ἰσαάκ.
- 13 Εἰς δὲ ἕκαστος καὶ ἀλλήλους ὁμοῦ πάντες ἐφόρων φαιδροὶ
καὶ μάλα θαρρᾶλαιοί, ἑαυτοὺς, ἔλεγον, τῷ Θεῷ ἀφιερῶσωμεν ἐξ
ὅλης τῆς καρδίας τῷ δόντι τὰς ψυχὰς, καὶ χρήσωμεν τῇ περὶ τὸν
14 νόμον φυλακῇ τὰ σώματα. Μὴ φοβηθῶμεν τὸν δοκοῦντα
15 ἀποκτενεῖν. Μέγας γὰρ ψυχῆς ἀγὼν καὶ κίνδυνος ἐν αἰωνίῳ
15 βασάνῳ κείμενος τοῖς παραβᾶσιν τὴν ἐντολὴν τοῦ Θεοῦ. Καθ-
οπλισώμεθα τοιγαροῦν τῇ τοῦ θείου λογισμοῦ παθοκρατεία.
16 Οὕτως παθόντας ἡμᾶς Ἀβραὰμ καὶ Ἰσαάκ καὶ Ἰακώβ ὑποδέ-
17 ξονται, καὶ πάντες οἱ πατέρες ἐπαινέσουσιν. Καὶ ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ
τῶν ἀποσπωμένων αὐτῶν ἀδελφῶν ἔλεγον οἱ περιλειπόμενοι, μὴ
καταισχύνῃς ἡμᾶς ἀδελφε, μηδὲ ψεύσῃ τοὺς προαποθανόντας.
- 18 Οὐκ ἀγνοεῖτε δὲ τὰ τῆς ἀνθρωπότητος φίλτρα, ἅπερ ἡ θεία
καὶ πάνσοφος πρόνοια διὰ τῶν πατέρων τοῖς γεννωμένοις
19 ἐμέρισεν, καὶ διὰ τῆς μητρίας φυτεύσασα γαστρός· ἐν ᾗ τὸν
ἴσον ἀδελφοὶ κατοικήσαντες χρόνον, καὶ ἐν τῷ αὐτῷ χρόνῳ
πλασθέντες, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ αὐτοῦ αἵματος αὐξηθέντες, καὶ διὰ τῆς
20 αὐτῆς ψυχῆς τελεσφορηθέντες, καὶ διὰ τῶν ἴσων ἀποτεχθέν-
τες χρόνον, καὶ ἀπὸ τῶν αὐτῶν γαλακτοποτοῦντες πηγῶν, ἀφ'
21 οὗ συντρέφονται ἐν ἐναγκαλισμάτων φιλάδελφοι ψυχαί· καὶ
αὔξοντες σφοδρότερον διὰ συντροφίας, καὶ τῆς καθ' ἡμέραν
συνηθείας, καὶ τῆς ἄλλης παιδείας, καὶ τῆς ἡμετέρας ἐν νόμῳ
Θεοῦ ἀσκήσεως.
- 22 Οὕτως δὲ τοίνυν καθεστηκυίας τῆς φιλαδελφίας συμπα-
θούσης, οἱ ἐπὶ ἀδελφοὶ συμπαθέστερον ἔσχον τὴν πρὸς ἀλλή-
23 λους ὁμόνοιαν. Νόμῳ γὰρ τῷ αὐτῷ παιδευθέντες, καὶ τὰς
αὐτὰς ἐξασκήσαντες ἀρετὰς, καὶ τῷ δικαίῳ συντραφέντες βίῳ,
24 μᾶλλον ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἤγαγον. Ἡ γὰρ ὁμοζηλία τῆς καλοκαγα-
25 θίας ἐπέτεινεν αὐτῶν τὴν πρὸς ἀλλήλους ὁμόνοιαν. Σὺν γάρ
τῇ εὐσεβείᾳ ποθεινοτέραν αὐτοῖς κατεσκευάζεν τὴν φιλαδελφίαν.
- 26 Ἄλλ' ὁμοίως καίπερ τῆς φύσεως καὶ τῆς συνηθείας καὶ τῶν
τῆς ἀρετῆς ἡθῶν τὰ τῆς ἀδελφότητος αὐτοῖς φίλτρα συν-
αυξόντων, ἀνέσχοντο διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν τοὺς ἀδελφούς οἱ
ὑπολελειμμένοι τοὺς κατακλιζόμενους, ὁρῶντες μέχρι θανάτου
βασανιζομένους.

⁴ And it is impossible to overlook the leadership of reflection: for it gained the victory over both passions and troubles. ⁵ How, then, can we avoid according to these men mastery of passion through right reasoning, since they drew not back from the pains of fire? ⁶ For just as by means of towers projecting in front of harbours men break the threatening waves, and thus assure a still course to vessels entering port, ⁷ so that seven-towered right-reasoning of the young men, securing the harbour of religion, conquered the intemperance of passions.

⁸ For having arranged a holy choir of piety, they encouraged one another, saying, ⁹ Brothers, may we die brotherly for the law. Let us imitate the three young men in Assyria who despised the equally afflicting furnace. ¹⁰ Let us not be cowards in the manifestation of piety. ¹¹ And one said, Courage, brother; and another, Nobly endure. ¹² And another, Remember of what stock ye are; and by the hand of what father Isaac endured to be slain for the sake of piety.

¹³ And one and all, looking on each other serene and confident, said, Let us sacrifice with all our heart our souls to God who gave them, and employ our bodies for the keeping of the law. ¹⁴ Let us not fear him who thinketh he killeth; ¹⁵ for great is the trial of soul and danger of eternal torment laid up for those who transgress the commandment of God. ¹⁵ Let us arm ourselves, therefore, in the abnegation of the divine reasoning. ¹⁶ If we suffer thus, Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob will receive us, and all the fathers will commend us. ¹⁷ And as each one of the brethren was hailed away, the rest exclaimed, Disgrace us not, O brother, nor falsify those who have died before you.

¹⁸ Now you are not ignorant of the charm of brotherhood, which the Divine and all-wise Providence has imparted through fathers to children, and has engendered through the mother's womb. ¹⁹ In which these brothers having remained an equal time, and having been formed for the same period, and having been increased by the same blood, and having been perfected through the same principle of life, ²⁰ and having been brought forth at equal intervals, and having sucked milk from the same fountains, hence their brotherly souls are reared up lovingly together; ²¹ and increase the more powerfully by reason of this simultaneous rearing, and by daily intercourse, and by other education, and exercise in the law of God.

²² Brotherly love being thus sympathetically constituted, the seven brethren had a more sympathetic mutual harmony. ²³ For being educated in the same law, and practising the same virtues, and reared up in a just course of life, they increased this harmony with each other. ²⁴ For a like ardour for what is right and honourable increased their fellow-feeling towards each other. ²⁵ For it acting along with religion, made their brotherly feeling more desirable to them.

²⁶ And yet, although nature and intercourse and virtuous morals increased their brotherly love, those who were left endured to behold their brethren, who were illused for their religion, tortured even unto death.

And more than this, they even urged them on to this ill-treatment; so that they not only despised pains themselves, but they even got the better of their affections of brotherly love.

²O reasonings more royal than a king, and freer than freemen! ³Sacred and harmonious concert of the seven brethren as concerning piety! ⁴None of the seven youths turned cowardly, or shrank back from death. ⁵But all of them, as though running the road to immortality, hastened on to death through tortures. ⁶For just as hands and feet are moved sympathetically with the directions of the soul, so those holy youths agreed unto death for religion's sake, as through the immortal soul of religion.

⁷O holy seven of harmonious brethren! for as the seven days of creation, about religion, ⁸so the youths, circling around the number seven, annulled the fear of torments. ⁹We now shudder at the recital of the affliction of those young men; but they not only beheld, and not only heard the immediate execution of the threat, but undergoing it, persevered; and that through the pains of fire. ¹⁰And what could be more painful? for the power of fire, being sharp and quick, speedily dissolved their bodies.

¹¹And think it not wonderful that reasoning bore rule over those men in their torments, when even a woman's mind despised more manifold pains. ¹²For the mother of those seven youths endured the rackings of each of her children.

¹³And consider how comprehensive is the love of offspring, which draws every one to sympathy of affection, ¹⁴where irrational animals possess a similar sympathy and love for their offspring with men. ¹⁵The tame birds frequenting the roofs of our houses, defend their fledglings. ¹⁶Others build their nests, and hatch their young, in the tops of mountains and in the precipices of valleys, and the holes and tops of trees, and keep off the intruder. ¹⁷And if not able to do this, they fly circling round them in agony of affection, calling out in their own note, and save their offspring in whatever manner they are able.

¹⁸But why should we point attention to the sympathy toward children shewn by irrational animals? ¹⁹The very bees, at the season of honey-making, attack all who approach; and pierce with their sting, as with a sword, those who draw near their hive, and repel them even unto death.

²⁰But sympathy with her children did not turn aside the mother of the young men, who had a spirit kindred with that of Abraham.

O reasoning of the sons, lord over the passions, and religion more desirable to a mother than progeny! ²The mother, when two things were set before her, religion and the safety of her seven sons for a time, on the conditional promise of a tyrant, ³rather elected the religion which according to God preserves to eternal life.

⁴O in what way can I describe ethically the affections of parents toward their children, the resemblance of soul and of form engrafted into the small type of a child in a wonderful manner, especially through the

Προσέτι καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν αἰκισμὸν ἐποτρύνοντες, ὡς μὴ μόνον 14 τῶν ἀλγυδόνων περιφρονῆσαι αὐτοὺς, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῆς τῶν ἀδελφῶν φιλαδελφίας παθῶν κρατῆσαι.

²Ὁ βασιλέως λογισμοὶ βασιλικώτεροι καὶ ἐλευθέρων ἐλευθε- 2 ρώτεροι. Ἱερὰς καὶ ἐναρμόστους περὶ τῆς εὐσεβείας τῶν ἐπτά 3 ἀδελφῶν συμφωνίας. Οὐδεὶς ἐκ τῶν ἐπτά μείρακιον ἐδειλίασεν, 4 οὐδὲ πρὸς τὸν θάνατον ὤκνησεν. Ἀλλὰ πάντες, ὥσπερ ἐπ' 5 ἀθανασίας ὁδὸν τρέχοντες, ἐπὶ τὸν διὰ τῶν βασάνων θάνατον ἔσπευδον. Καθάπερ γὰρ χεῖρες καὶ πόδες συμφώνως τοῖς τῆς 6 ψυχῆς ἀφηγήμασιν κινοῦνται· οὕτως οἱ ἱεροὶ μείρακες ἐκείνοι ὡς ὑπὸ ψυχῆς ἀθανάτου τῆς εὐσεβείας, πρὸς τὸν ὑπὲρ αὐτῆς συν- ἐφώνησαν θάνατον.

⁷Ὁ παναγία ἢ συμφώνον ἀδελφῶν ἐβδομάς· καθάπερ γὰρ 7 ἐπτά τῆς κοσμοποιίας ἡμέραι περὶ τὴν εὐσέβειαν, οὗτος περὶ 8 τὴν ἐβδομάδα χορεύοντες οἱ μείρακες ἐκύκλουν τὸν τῶν βασάνων φόβον καταλύοντες. Νῦν ἡμεῖς ἀκούοντες τὴν θλίψιν τῶν 9 νεανίων ἐκείνων, φρίττομεν· οἱ δὲ οὐ μόνον ὀρῶντες, ἀλλ' οὐδὲ μόνον ἀκούοντες τὸν παραχρῆμα ἀπειλῆς λόγον, ἀλλὰ καὶ πάσχοντες, ἐκαρτέρουν καὶ τοῦτο ταῖς διὰ πυρὸς ὀδύναις. Ὡν 10 τί γένοιτο ἐπαλγέστερον; ὀξεία γὰρ καὶ σύντομος ἢ τοῦ πυρὸς οὔσα δύναμις, ταχέως διέλυσε τὰ σώματα.

Καὶ μὴ θαυμαστὸν ἡγεῖσθε, εἰ ὁ λογισμὸς περιεκράτησεν τῶν 11 ἀνδρῶν ἐκείνων ἐν ταῖς βασάνοις, ὅπου γε καὶ γυναικὸς νοῦς πολυτροπώτερον ὑπερεφρόνησεν ἀλγυδόνων. Ἡ μήτηρ γὰρ 12 τῶν ἐπτά νεανίσκων ὑπήνεγκεν τὰς ἐφ' ἐνὶ ἐκάστῳ τῶν τέκνων στρέβλας.

Θεωρεῖτε δὲ πῶς πολὺπλοκὸς ἐστὶν ἡ τῆς φιλοτεκνίας στοργή, 13 ἔλκουσα πάντα πρὸς τὴν τῶν σπλάγχχνων συμπάθειαν. Ὅπου 14 γε καὶ τὰ ἄλογα ζῶα ὁμοίαν τὴν πρὸς τὰ ἐξ αὐτῶν γεννώμενα συμπάθειαν καὶ στοργὴν ἔχει τοῖς ἀνθρώποις. Καὶ γὰρ τῶν 15 πετεινῶν, τὰ μὲν ἡμέρα κατὰ τὰς οἰκίας ὀροφοῖτοῦντα προασπίζει τῶν νεοττῶν. Τὰ δὲ κατὰ τὰς κορυφὰς ὀρέων καὶ φαράγγων 16 ἀπορρῶγας καὶ δένδρων ὅπας καὶ τὰς τούτων ἄκρας νοσσοποιη- σάμενα ἀποτίκτει, καὶ τὸν προσιόντα κωλύει. Εἰ δὲ καὶ μὴ 17 δύναιντο κωλύειν, περιπτάμενα κυκλόθεν αὐτῶν ἀλγοῦντα τῇ στοργῇ, ἀνακαλούμενα τῇ ἰδίᾳ φωνῇ, καθ' ὃν δύναται τρόπον βοηθεῖ τοῖς τέκνοις.

Καὶ τί δεῖ τὴν διὰ τῶν ἀλόγων ζῶων ἐπιδεικνύναι τὴν πρὸς 18 τὰ τέκνα συμπάθειαν. Ὅπου γε καὶ μέλισσαι περὶ τὸν τῆς 19 κηρογονίας καιρὸν ἐπαμύνονται τοὺς προσιόντας, καὶ καθάπερ σιδήρῳ τῷ κέντρῳ πλήσσουσι τοὺς προσιόντας τῇ νοσσιᾷ αὐτῶν, καὶ ἐπαμύνονται ἕως θανάτου.

Ἀλλ' οὐχὶ τὴν Ἀβραὰμ ὁμόψυχον τῶν νεανίων μητέρα 20 μετεκίνησεν συμπάθεια τῆς συμπαθείας τέκνων.

²Ὁ λογίσμε τέκνων, παθῶν τύραννε, καὶ εὐσέβεια μητρὶ 15 τέκνων ποθεινότερα. Μήτηρ δυοῖν προκειμένων εὐσεβείας, 2 καὶ τῆς ἐπτά νῶν σωτηρίας προκαίρους κατὰ τὴν τοῦ τυράννου ὑπόσχεσιν· τὴν εὐσέβειαν μᾶλλον ἡγάπησεν τὴν σώζουσαν 3 εἰς αἰώνιον ζωὴν κατὰ Θεόν.

⁴Ὡς τίνα τρόπον ἡθολογήσασιν φιλότεκνα γονέων πάθη, ψυχῆς 4 τε καὶ μορφῆς ὁμοιότητα εἰς μικρὸν παιδὸς χαρακτήρα θαυμάσιον ἐναπεσφράγιζον, μάλιστα διὰ τὸν τῶν παθῶν τοῖς γεννηθεῖσιν

- 5 τὰς μητέρας καθεστάναι συμπαθεστέρας. Ὅσῳ γὰρ καὶ ἀσθενόψυχοι καὶ πολυγονώτεραι ὑπάρχουσιν μητέρες, τοσούτῳ
6 μᾶλλον εἰσιν φιλοτεκνότεραι. Πασῶν δὲ τῶν μητέρων ἐγένετο ἢ τῶν ἑπτὰ μήτηρ φιλοτεκνότερα, ἢ τις ἑπτὰ κνοφορίαις τὴν
7 πρὸς αὐτοὺς ἐπιφυτευομένη φιλοστοργία, καὶ διὰ πολλὰς τὰς καθ' ἑκάστον αὐτῶν ὠδίνας ἠναγκασμένην τὴν εἰς αὐτοὺς ἔχειν
8 συμπάθειαν, διὰ τὸν πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν φόβον ὑπερείδεν τὴν τῶν τέκνων πρόσκαιρον σωτηρίαν.
- 9 Οὐ μὴν δὲ, ἀλλὰ καὶ διὰ τὴν καλοκαγαθίαν τῶν υἱῶν, καὶ τὴν πρὸς τὸν νόμον αὐτῶν εὐπείθειαν, μείζων τὴν ἐν αὐτοῖς ἔσχεν
10 φιλοστοργίαν. Δίκαιοί τε γὰρ ἦσαν, καὶ σώφρονες, καὶ ἀνδρεῖοι, καὶ μεγαλόψυχοι, καὶ φιλάδελφοι, καὶ φιλομήτορες οὕτως, ὥστε καὶ μέχρι θανάτου τὰ νόμιμα φυλάσσοντες πείθεσθαι αὐτῇ.
- 11 Ἀλλ' ὅμως, καὶ ὑπὲρ τοσούτων ὄντων τῶν περὶ φιλοτεκνίαν εἰς συμπάθειαν ἐλκόντων τὴν μητέρα, ἐπ' οὐδενὸς αὐτῶν τὸν
12 λογισμὸν αὐτῆς αἱ παμπούκιλοι ἴσχυσαν μετατρέψαι. Ἀλλὰ καὶ καθ' ἓνα παῖδα καὶ ὁμοῦ πάντας ἢ μήτηρ ἐπὶ τὸν τῆς εὐσεβείας προετρέπετο θάνατον. Ὡς φύσις ἱερὰ, καὶ φίλτρα γονέων καὶ γονεῦσιν φιλόστοργε, καὶ τροφεία, καὶ μητέρων ἀδάμαστα πάθη.
- 14 Καθ' ἓνα στρεβλούμενον καὶ φλεγόμενον ὀρώσα μήτηρ,
15 οὐ μετεβάλετο διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν. Τὰς σάρκας τῶν τέκνων ἑώρα περὶ τὸ πῦρ τηκομένας, καὶ τοὺς τῶν ποδῶν καὶ χειρῶν δακτύλους ἐπὶ γῆς σπαίροντας, καὶ τὰς τῶν κεφαλῶν μέχρι τῶν περὶ τὰ γένηα σάρκας, ὥσπερ προσωπεῖα προκειμένας.
- 16 Ὡς πικροτέρων μὲν νῦν μήτηρ πόνων πειρασθεῖσα, ἤπερ τῶν
17 ἐπ' αὐτοῖς ὠδίνων. Ὡς μόνη γυνὴ τὴν εὐσέβειαν ὀλόκληρον ἀποκνήσασα. Οὐ μετέτρεψεν σε πρωτότοκος ἀποπνέων· οὐδὲ δεύτερον εἰς οἶκτρον βλέπων ἐν βασάνοις· οὐδὲ τρίτος ἀποψύχων.
- 19 Οὐδὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἐνὸς ἐκάστου θεωροῦσα ταυρηδὸν ἐπὶ τῶν βασάνων ὀρώσας τὸν αὐτὸν αἰκισμὸν, καὶ τοὺς μυκτῆρας
20 προσημειομένους αὐτῶν τὸν θάνατον, οὐκ ἔκλαυσας. Ἐπὶ σαρξὶν τέκνων ὀρώσα σάρκας τέκνων ἀποκεκομμένας, καὶ ἐπὶ χερσὶν χεῖρας ἀποτεμνομένας, καὶ ἐπὶ κεφαλαῖς κεφαλὰς ἀποδειροτομουμένας, καὶ ἐπὶ νεκροῖς νεκροὺς πίπτοντας, καὶ πολυάνδριον ὀρώσα τῶν τέκνων χορεῖον διὰ τῶν βασάνων, οὐκ ἐδάκρυσας.
- 21 Οὐχ οὕτως σειρήνιοι μελωδαί, οὐδὲ κύκνιοι πρὸς φιληκοῖαν φωναὶ τοὺς ἀκούοντας ἐφέλκονται, ὥς τέκνων φωναὶ μετὰ
22 βασάνων μητέρα φωνούντων. Πηλίκαις καὶ πόσαις τότε ἢ μήτηρ, τῶν υἱῶν βασανιζομένων τροχοῖς τε καὶ καυτερίοις ἐβασανίζετο βασάνοις;
- 23 Ἀλλὰ τὰ σπλάγχνα αὐτῆς ὁ εὐσεβὴς λογισμὸς ἐν αὐτοῖς τοῖς πάθεσιν ἀνδρεῖώς· ἐπέτεινεν τὴν πρόσκαιρον φιλοτεκνίαν
24 παριδεῖν. Καίπερ ἑπτὰ τέκνων ὀρώσα ἀπώλειαν· ἀσπάσασα
25 ἢ γενναῖα μήτηρ ἐξέδυσεν διὰ τὴν πρὸς Θεὸν πίστιν. Καθάπερ γὰρ ἐν βουλευτηρίῳ τῇ ἑαυτῆς ψυχῇ δεινούς ὀρώσα συμβούλους, φύσιν καὶ γένεσιν· καὶ φιλοτεκνίαν καὶ τέκνων στρέβλαν.

greater sympathy of mothers with the feelings of those born of them! ⁵for by how much mothers are by nature weak in disposition and prolific in offspring, by so much the fonder they are of children. ⁶And of all mothers the mother of the seven was the fondest of children, who in seven child-births had deeply engendered love toward them; ⁷and through her many pains undergone in connection with each one, was compelled to feel sympathy with them; ⁸yet, through fear of God, she neglected the temporary salvation of her children.

⁹Not but that, on account of the excellent disposition of her sons, and their obedience to the law, her maternal affection toward them was increased. ¹⁰For they were both just and temperate, and manly, and high-minded, and fond of their brethren, and so fond of their mother that even unto death they obeyed her by observing the law.

¹¹And yet, though there were so many circumstances connected with love of children to draw on a mother to sympathy, in the case of none of them were the various tortures able to pervert her principle. ¹²But she inclined each one separately and all together to death for religion. ¹³O holy nature and parental feeling, and reward of bringing up children, and unconquerable maternal affection!

¹⁴At the racking and roasting of each one of them, the observant mother was prevented by religion from changing. ¹⁵She beheld her children's flesh dissolving around the fire; and their extremities quivering on the ground, and the flesh of their heads dropped forwards down to their beards, like masks.

¹⁶O thou mother, who wast tried at this time with bitterer pangs than those of parturition! ¹⁷O thou only woman who hast brought forth perfect holiness! ¹⁸Thy first-born, expiring, turned thee not; nor the second, looking miserable in his torments; nor the third, breathing out his soul. ¹⁹Nor when thou didst behold the eyes of each of them looking sternly upon their tortures, and their nostrils foreboding death, didst thou weep! ²⁰When thou didst see children's flesh heaped upon children's flesh that had been torn off, hands upon hands cut off, heads decapitated upon heads, dead falling upon the dead, and a choir of children turned through torture into a burying-ground, thou lamentedst not.

²¹Not so do siren melodies, or songs of swans, attract the hearers to listening, O voices of children calling upon your mother in the midst of torments! ²²With what and what manner of torments was the mother herself tortured, as her sons were undergoing the wheel and the fires!

²³But religious reasoning, having strengthened her courage in the midst of sufferings, enabled her to forego, for the time, parental love. ²⁴Although beholding the destruction of seven children, the noble mother, after one embrace, stripped off [her feelings] through faith in God. ²⁵For just as in a council-room, beholding in her own soul vehement counsellors, nature and parentage and love of her children, and the racking

of her children, ²⁶ she holding two votes, one for the death, the other for the preservation of her children, ²⁷ did not lean to that which would have saved her children for the safety of a brief space. ²⁸ But this daughter of Abraham remembered his holy fortitude.

²⁹ O mother of a nation, avenger of the law, and defender of religion, and prime bearer in the battle of the affections! ³⁰ O thou nobler in endurance than males, and more manly than men in patience! ³¹ For as the ark of Noah, bearing the world in the world-filling flood, bore up against the waves, ³² so thou, the guardian of the law, when surrounded on every side by the flood of passions, and straitened by violent storms which were the torments of thy children, didst bear up nobly against the storms against religion.

If, then, even a woman, and that an aged one, and the mother of seven children, endured to see her children's torments even unto death, confessedly religious reasoning is master even of the passions.

² I have proved, then, that not only men have obtained the mastery of their passions, but also that a woman despised the greatest torments. ³ And not so fierce were the lions round Daniel, nor the furnace of Misael burning with most vehement fire, as that natural love of children burned within her, when she beheld her seven sons tortured. ⁴ But with the reasoning of religion the mother quenched passions so great and powerful.

⁵ For we must consider also this: that, had the woman been faint-hearted, as being their mother, she would have lamented over them; and perhaps might have spoken thus:

⁶ Ah! wretched I, and many times miserable; who having born seven sons, have become the mother of none. ⁷ O seven useless childbirths, and seven profitless periods of labour, and fruitless givings of suck, and miserable nursings at the breast. ⁸ Vainly, for your sakes, O sons, have I endured many pangs, and the more difficult anxieties of rearing. ⁹ Alas, of my children, some of you unmarried, and some who have married to no profit, I shall not see your children, nor be felicitated as a grandmother. ¹⁰ Ah, that I who had many and fair children, should be a lone widow full of sorrows! ¹¹ Nor, should I die, shall I have a son to bury me.

But with such a lament as this the holy and God-fearing mother bewailed none of them. ¹² Nor did she divert any of them from death, nor grieve for them as for the dead. ¹³ But as one possessed with an adamant mind, and as one bringing forth again her full number of sons to immortality, she rather with supplications exhorted them to death in behalf of religion.

¹⁴ O woman, soldier of God for religion, thou, aged and a female, hast conquered through endurance even a tyrant; and though but weak, hast been found more powerful in deeds and words. ¹⁵ For when thou wast seized along with thy children, thou stoodest looking upon Eleazar in torments, and saidst to thy sons in the Hebrew tongue,

Δύο ψήφους κρατοῦσα μήτηρ, θανατηφόρον τε καὶ σωτήριον ²⁶
ὑπὲρ τέκνων· Οὐκ ἐπέγνω τὴν σώζουσαν ἑπτὰ υἱοὺς πρὸς ὀλίγον ²⁷
χρόνον σωτηρίαν. Ἀλλὰ τῆς θεοσεβοῦς Ἀβραὰμ καρτερίας ἡ ²⁸
θυγάτηρ ἐμνήσθη.

²⁹ Ὡς μήτηρ ἔθνους, ἔκδικε τοῦ νόμου, καὶ ὑπερασπίσθαι τῆς ²⁹
εὐσεβείας, καὶ τοῦ διὰ σπλάγχχνων ἀγῶνος ἀθλοφόρε. Ὡς ³⁰
ἄρρῆνων πρὸς καρτερίαν γενναιοτέρα, καὶ ἀνδρῶν πρὸς ὑπομο- ³¹
νὴν ἀνδρειοτέρα. Καθάπερ γὰρ ἡ Νῶε κιβωτὸς ἐν τῷ κοσμο- ³¹
πληθεὶ κατακλυσμῷ κοσμοφοροῦσα καρτεροὺς ὑπήνεγκεν τοὺς ³²
κλυδῶνας· οὕτως σὺ, ἡ νομοφύλαξ, πανταχόθεν ἐν τῷ τῶν ³²
παθῶν περιαντλουμένη κατακλυσμῷ, καὶ καρτεροῖς ἂν λοιμοῖς ³²
ταῖς τῶν υἱῶν βασάνοις συνεχομένη, γενναίως ὑπέμεινας τοὺς ³²
τῆς εὐσεβείας χεიმῶνας.

Εἰ δὲ τοίνυν καὶ γυνή, καὶ γηραιά, καὶ ἑπτὰ παίδων μήτηρ ¹⁶
ὑπέμεινε τὰς μέχρι θανάτου βασάνους ὁρῶσα τῶν τέκνων·
ὁμολογουμένως αὐτοκράτωρ ἐστὶν τῶν παθῶν ὁ εὐσεβὴς λο-
γισμός.

Ἀπέδειξα οὖν ὅτι οὐ μόνον τῶν παθῶν ἄνδρες ἐπεκράτησαν, ²
ἀλλὰ καὶ γυνὴ τῶν μεγίστων βασάνων ὑπερεφρόνησεν. Καὶ ³
οὐχ οὕτως οἱ περὶ Δανιὴλ λέοντες ἦσαν ἄγριοι, οὐδὲ Μισαὴλ ³
ἐκφλεγόμενη κάμινος λαβροτάτῳ πυρὶ, ὥς τῆς φιλοτεκνίας ³
περιέκαιεν ἐκείνη φύσις, ὁρῶσα αὐτῆς τοὺς ἑπτὰ υἱοὺς βασανι-
ζομένους. Ἀλλὰ τῷ λογισμῷ τῆς εὐσεβείας κατέσβεσε τοσ- ⁴
αὐτὰ καὶ τηλικαῦτα πάθη ἢ μήτηρ.

Καὶ γὰρ τοῦτο ἐπιλογίσασθαι, ὅτι εἰ δειλόψυχος ἦν ἡ ⁵
γυνή, καίπερ μήτηρ οὔσα, ὠλοφύρετο ἂν ἐπ' αὐτοῖς· καὶ ἴσως
ἂν ταῦτα οὕτως εἶπεν,

⁶ Ὡς μελέα ἔγωγε, καὶ πολλάκις τρισαθλία, ἥτις ἑπτὰ παῖδας ⁶
τεκοῦσα, οὐδενὸς μήτηρ γεγένημαι. Ὡς μάταιοι ἑπτὰ κνοφορίαί, ⁷
καὶ ἀνόνητοι ἑπτὰ δεκάμηνοι, καὶ ἄκαρποι τιθηνίαί, καὶ ταλαί-
πωροι γαλακτοτροφίαί. Μάτην ἐφ' ὑμῖν, ὦ παῖδες, πολλὰς ⁸
ὑπέμεινα ὠδῖνας καὶ χαλεπωτέρας φροντίδας ἀνατροφῆς. Ὡς ⁹
τῶν ἐμῶν παίδων, οἱ μὲν ἄγαμοι, οἱ δὲ γαμήσαντες ἀνόνητοι,
οὐκ ὄψομαι ὑμῶν τέκνα, οὐδὲ μάμμη κληθεῖσα μακαρισθή-
σομαι. Ὡς ἡ πολύταις καὶ καλλίταις ἐγὼ γυνὴ χήρα καὶ ¹⁰
μόνη πολύθρηνος. Οὐδ' ἂν ἀποθάνω, θάπτοντα τῶν υἱῶν ¹¹
ἔξω τινά.

Ἀλλὰ τούτῳ τῷ θρήνῳ οὐδένα ὠλοφύρετο ἡ ἱερὰ καὶ ¹²
θεοσεβὴς μήτηρ. Οὐδ' ἵνα μὴ ἀποθάνωσιν ἀπέτρεπεν αὐτῶν ¹²
τινα, οὐδ' ὥς ἀποθνησκόντων ἐλυπήθη. Ἀλλ' ὥσπερ ἀδα- ¹³
μάντινον ἔχουσα τὸν νοῦν, καὶ εἰς ἀθανασίαν ἀνατίκτουσα τὸν ¹³
τῶν υἱῶν ἀριθμὸν, μᾶλλον ὑπὲρ τῆς εὐσεβείας ἐπὶ τὸν θάνατον
αὐτοὺς προετρέπετο ἰκετεύουσα.

¹⁴ Ὡς δὲ εὐσέβειαν Θεοῦ στρατιῳτι, πρεσβύτι καὶ γυνὴ διὰ ¹⁴
καρτερίαν καὶ τύραννον ἐνίκησας, καὶ ἔργοις δυνατωτέρα καὶ ¹⁴
λόγοις εὐρέθης ἄνθρωπος. Καὶ γὰρ ὅτε συνελήφθης μετὰ τῶν ¹⁵
παίδων, εἰστήκεις τὸν Ἑλεάζαρον ὁρῶσα βασανιζόμενον, καὶ ¹⁵
ἔλεγες τοῖς παισὶν ἐν τῇ Ἑβραϊδὶ φωνῇ,

- 16 Ὡ παῖδες, γενναῖος ὁ ἀγών· εφ' ὃν κληθέντες ὑπὲρ τῆς δια-
μαρτυρίας τοῦ ἔθνους, ἐναγωνίασαθε προθύμως ὑπὲρ τοῦ πατρίου
17 νόμου. Καὶ γὰρ αἰσχρὸν τὸν μὴν γέροντα τοῦτον ὑπομένειν
τὰς διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν ἀλγηδόνας, ὑμᾶς δὲ τοὺς νεωτέρους κατα-
πλαγῆναι τὰς βασάνους.
- 18 Ἀναμνήσθητε, ὅτι διὰ τὸν Θεὸν τοῦ κόσμου μετελάβετε, καὶ
19 τοῦ βίου ἀπελαύσατέ· καὶ διὰ τοῦτο ὀφείλετε πάντα πόνον
20 ὑπομένειν διὰ τὸν Θεόν. Δι' ὃν καὶ ὁ πατὴρ ἡμῶν Ἀβραὰμ
ἔσπευδεν τὸν ἐθνοπάτορα υἱὸν σφαγιάσαι Ἰσαὰκ, καὶ τὴν πα-
τρῶαν χεῖρα ξιφηφόρον καταφερομένην ἐπ' αὐτὸν ὀρῶν οὐκ
21 ἔπηξεν. Καὶ Δανιὴλ ὁ δίκαιος εἰς λέοντας ἐβλήθη· καὶ
Ἀνανίας, καὶ Ἀζαρίας, καὶ Μισαὴλ εἰς κάμινον πυρὸς ἀπεσφεν-
22 δονήθησαν, καὶ ὑπέμειναν, διὰ τὸν Θεόν. Καὶ ὑμεῖς οὖν τὴν
23 αὐτὴν πίστιν πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν ἔχοντες, μὴ χαλεπαίνητε. Ἀλό-
γιστον γὰρ εἰδότας εὐσέβειαν μὴ ἀντιστασθαι τοῖς πόνοις.
- 24 Διὰ τούτων τῶν λόγων ἡ ἐπαμήτωρ ἓνα ἕκαστον τῶν υἱῶν
παρακαλοῦσα, ἔπεισε μᾶλλον, ἢ παραβῆναι τὴν ἐντολὴν τοῦ
25 Θεοῦ. Ἐτι δὲ καὶ ταῦτα ἰδόντες, ὅτι διὰ τὸν Θεὸν ἀποθανόντες
ζῶσιν τῷ Θεῷ, ὥσπερ Ἀβραὰμ καὶ Ἰσαὰκ καὶ Ἰακώβ, καὶ
πάντες οἱ πατριάρχαι.
- 17 Ἐλεγον δὲ καὶ τῶν δορυφόρων τινές, ὡς ὅτε ἔμελλεν καὶ αὕτῃ
συλλαμβάνεσθαι πρὸς θάνατον, ἵνα μὴ ψαύσειεν τι τοῦ σώμα-
τος ἐαυτῆς, ἐαυτὴν ἔρριψεν κατὰ τῆς πυρᾶς.
- 2 Ὡ μήτηρ σὺν ἐπτὰ παισὶν καταλύσασα τὴν τοῦ τυράννου
βίαν, καὶ ἀκυρώσασα τὰς κακὰς ἐπινοίας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐπιδείξασα
3 τὴν τῆς πίστεως γενναιότητα. Καθάπερ γὰρ σὺ στέγη ἐπὶ τοῦ
στύλου τῶν παίδων γενναίως ἰδρυμένη, ἀκλινῶς ὑπήνεγκας τὸν
διὰ τῶν βασάνων σεισμόν.
- 4 Θάρρει τοιγαροῦν, ὦ μήτηρ ἱερόψυχε, τὴν ἐλπίδα τῆς ὑπο-
5 μοῆς γενναίως ἔχουσα πρὸς Θεόν. Οὐχ οὕτω σελήνη κατ'
οὐρανὸν σὺν ἄστροις σεμνὴ καθέστηκεν, ὡς σὺ τοὺς εἰς ἀστέρας
ἐπτὰ παῖδας φωταγωγῆσασα πρὸς τὴν εὐσέβειαν ἐντιμος καθ-
6 ἔστηκας Θεῷ, καὶ ἐστήρισαι ἐν οὐρανῷ σὺν αὐτοῖς. Ἦν γὰρ ἡ
παιδοποιία σου ἀπὸ Ἀβραὰμ τοῦ παιδός.
- 7 Εἰ δὲ ἐξὸν ἡμῖν ἦν, ὥσπερ τινὸς ζωγραφῆσαι τὴν τῆς ἱστορίας
σου εὐσέβειαν, οὐκ ἂν ἔφριττον οἱ θεωροῦντες μητέρα ἐπτὰ
τέκνων δι' εὐσέβειαν ποικίλας βασάνους μέχρι θανάτου ὑπο-
8 μέinasαν. Καὶ γὰρ ἄξιον ἦν καὶ ἐπὶ αὐτοῦ τοῦ ἐπιταφίου
ἀναγράψαι καὶ ταῦτα τοῖς ἀπὸ τοῦ ἔθνους εἰς μνείαν λεγόμενα.
9 Ἐνταῦθα γέροντες ἱερεῖς, καὶ γυνὴ γεραία, καὶ ἐπτὰ παῖδες
ἐγκεκήδευνται διὰ τυράννου βίαν, τὴν Ἑβραίων πολιτείαν κατα-
10 λῦσαι θέλοντος. Οἱ καὶ ἐξεδίκησαν τὸ ἔθνος εἰς Θεὸν ἀφ-
ορῶντες, καὶ μέχρι θανάτου τὰς βασάνους ὑπομείναντες.
- 11 Ἀληθῶς γὰρ ἦν ἀγὼν θεῖος ὁ δι' αὐτῶν γεγενημένος.
12 Ἡθλότει γὰρ τότε ἀρετὴ δι' ὑπομονῆς δοκιμάζουσα τὸ νίκος ἐν
13 ἀφθαρσίᾳ ἐν ζωῇ πολυχρονίῳ. Ἐλεάζαρ δὲ προηγωνίζετο· ἡ
δὲ μήτηρ τῶν ἐπτὰ παιδῶν ἐνήθλει· οἱ δὲ ἀδελφοὶ ἡγωνίζοντο·
14 ὁ τύραννος ἀντηγωνίζετο· ὁ δὲ κόσμος καὶ ὁ τῶν ἀνθρώπων

¹⁶ O sons, noble is the contest; to which you being called as a witness for the nation, strive zealously for the laws of your country.
¹⁷ For it were disgraceful that this old man should endure pains for the sake of righte-ousness, and that you who are younger should be afraid of the tortures.

¹⁸ Remember that through God ye ob-tained existence, and have enjoyed it. ¹⁹ And on this account ye ought to bear every affliction because of God. ²⁰ For whom also our father Abraham was forward to sacrifice Isaac our progenitor, and shud-dered not at the sight of his own paternal hand descending down with the sword upon him. ²¹ And the righteous Daniel was cast unto the lions; and Ananias, and Azarias, and Misael, were slung out into a furnace of fire; yet they endured through God. ²² You, then, having the same faith towards God, be not troubled. ²³ For it is unreasonable that they who know religion should not stand up against troubles.

²⁴ With these arguments, the mother of seven, exhorting each of her sons, over-per-suaded them from transgressing the com-mandment of God. ²⁵ And they saw this, too, that they who die for God, live to God; as Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the patriarchs.

And some of the spearbearers said, that when she herself was about to be seized for the purpose of being put to death, she threw herself upon the pile, rather than that they should touch her person.

² O thou mother, who together with seven children didst destroy the violence of the tyrant, and render void his wicked inten-tions, and exhibit the nobleness of faith! ³ For thou, as a house bravely built upon the pillar of thy children, didst bear with-out swaying, the shock of tortures.

⁴ Be of good cheer, therefore, O holy-minded mother! holding the firm [substance of the] hope of your steadfastness with God. ⁵ Not so gracious does the moon appear with the stars in heaven, as thou art established honourable before God, and fixed in the firmament with thy sons whom thou didst illuminate with religion to the stars. ⁶ For thy bearing of children was after the fashion of a child of Abraham.

⁷ And, were it lawful for us to paint as on a tablet the religion of thy story, the spec-tators would not shudder at beholding the mother of seven children enduring for the sake of religion various tortures even unto death. ⁸ And it had been a worthy thing to have inscribed upon the tomb itself these words as a memorial to those of the nation, ⁹ Here an aged priest, and an aged woman, and seven sons, are buried through the violence of a tyrant, who wished to destroy the polity of the Hebrews. ¹⁰ These also avenged their nation, looking unto God, and enduring torments unto death.

¹¹ For it was a truly divine contest which was carried through by them. ¹² For at that time virtue presided over the contest, approving the victory through endurance, namely, immortality, eternal life. ¹³ Eleazar was the first to contend: and the mother of the seven children entered the contest; and the brethren contended. ¹⁴ The tyrant was the opposite; and the world and living men

were the spectators. ¹⁵And reverence for God conquered, and crowned her own athletes.

¹⁶Who did not admire those champions of true legislation? who were not astonished? ¹⁷The tyrant himself, and all their council, admired their endurance; ¹⁸through which, also, they now stand beside the divine throne, and live a blessed life. ¹⁹For Moses saith, And all the saints are under thy hands.

²⁰These, therefore, having been sanctified through God, have been honoured not only with this honour, but that also by their means the enemy did not overcome our nation; ²¹and that the tyrant was punished, and their country purified. ²²For they became the antipoise to the sin of the nation; and the Divine Providence saved Israel, aforetime afflicted, by the blood of those pious ones, and their propitiatory death.

²³For the tyrant Antiochus, looking to their manly virtue, and to their endurance in torture, proclaimed that endurance as an example to his soldiers. ²⁴And they proved to be to him noble and brave for land battles and sieges; and he conquered and stormed the towns of all his enemies.

O Israelitish children, descendants of the seed of Abraham, obey this law, and in every way be religious. ²Knowing that religious reasoning is lord of the passions, and those not only inward but outward.

³Whence those persons giving up their bodies to pains for the sake of religion, were not only admired by men, but were deemed worthy of a divine portion. ⁴And the nation through them obtained peace, and having renewed the observance of the law in their country, drove the enemy out of the land. ⁵And the tyrant Antiochus was both punished upon earth, and is punished now he is dead; for when he was quite unable to compel the Israelites to adopt foreign customs, and to desert the manner of life of their fathers, ⁶then, departing from Jerusalem, he made war against the Persians.

⁷And the righteous mother of the seven children spake also as follows to her offspring: I was a pure virgin, and went not beyond my father's house; but I took care of the built-up rib. ⁸No destroyer of the desert, [or] ravisher of the plain, injured me; nor did the destructive, deceitful, snake, make spoil of my chaste virginity; and I remained with my husband during the period of my prime.

⁹And these my children, having arrived at maturity, their father died: blessed was he! for having sought out a life of fertility in children, he was not grieved with a period of loss of children. ¹⁰And he used to teach you, when yet with you, the law and the prophets.

¹¹He used to read to you the slaying of Abel by Cain, and the offering up of Isaac, and the imprisonment of Joseph. ¹²And he used to tell you of the zealous Phinehas; and informed you of Ananias and Azarias, and Misael in the fire. ¹³And he used to glorify Daniel, who was in the den of lions, and pronounce him blessed.

¹⁴And he used to put you in mind of the scripture of Esaias, which saith, Even if thou pass through the fire, it shall not burn thee. ¹⁵He chanted to you David, the

βίος ἐθεώρει. Θεοσέβεια δὲ ἐνίκα, τοὺς ἐαυτῆς ἀθλητὰς στε- 15
φανοῦσα.

Τίνες οὐκ ἐθαύμασαν τοὺς τῆς ἀληθείας νομοθεσίας ἀθλητὰς; 16
τίνες οὐκ ἐξεπλάγησαν; Αὐτός γέ τοι ὁ τύραννος καὶ ὅλον τὸν 17
συνέδριον αὐτῶν ἐξεθαύμασαν αὐτῶν τὴν ὑπομονήν. Δι' ἣν καὶ 18
τῷ θεῷ νῦν παρεστήκασιν θρόνῳ, καὶ τὸν μακάριον βιοῦσιν
αἰῶνα. Καὶ γὰρ φησιν ὁ Μωσῆς, καὶ πάντες οἱ ἡγιασμένοι 19
ὑπὸ τὰς χεῖράς σου.

Καὶ οὗτοι οὖν ἡγιασθέντες διὰ Θεὸν τετίμηνται οὐ μόνον οὖν 20
ταύτῃ τῇ τιμῇ, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῷ δι' αὐτοὺς τὸ ἔθνος ἡμῶν τοὺς πολε-
μίους μὴ ἐπικρατήσας, καὶ τὸν τύραννον τιμωρηθῆναι, καὶ τὴν 21
πατρίδα καθαρισθῆναι, ὥσπερ ἀντίψυχον γεγονότας τῆς τοῦ 22
ἔθνους ἀμαρτίας, καὶ διὰ τοῦ αἵματος τῶν εὐσεβῶν ἐκείνων, καὶ
τοῦ ἱλαστηρίου θανάτου αὐτῶν, ἡ θεία πρόνοια τὸν Ἰσραὴλ
προκακωθέντα διέσωσεν.

Πρὸς γὰρ τὴν ἀνδρείαν αὐτῶν τῆς ἀρετῆς, καὶ τὴν ἐπὶ ταῖς 23
βασάνοις αὐτῶν ὑπομονὴν ὁ τύραννος ἀφιδὼν Ἀντίοχος ἀνε-
κήρυξεν τοῖς στρατιώταις αὐτοῦ εἰς ὑπόδειγμα τὴν ἐκείνων
ὑπομονήν. Ἔσχεν τε αὐτοὺς γενναίους καὶ ἀνδρείους εἰς 24
πέζομαχίαν καὶ πολιορκίαν· καὶ ἐκπορθήσας ἐνίκησεν πάντας
τοὺς πολεμίους.

Ὡ τῶν Ἀβραμιαίων σπερμάτων ἀπόγονοι παῖδες Ἰσραηλῖται, 18
πέιθεσθε τῷ νόμῳ τούτῳ, καὶ πάντα τρόπον εὐσεβεῖτε· γινώ- 2
σκοντες, ὅτι τῶν παθῶν δεσπότης ἐστὶν ὁ εὐσεβῆς λογισμὸς·
καὶ οὐ μόνον τῶν ἑνδοθεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τῶν ἑξωθεν πόνων·

Ἀνθ' ὧν διὰ τὴν εὐσέβειαν προῖέμενοι τὰ σώματα τοῖς πόνοις 3
ἐκείνοι, οὐ μόνον ὑπὸ τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἐθαυμάσθησαν, ἀλλὰ καὶ
θείας μερίδος κατηξιώθησαν. Καὶ δι' αὐτοὺς εἰρήνευσεν τὸ 4
ἔθνος, καὶ τὴν εὐνομίαν τὴν ἐπὶ τῆς πατρίδος ἀνανεωσάμενος,
ἐκπεπολιόρηκε τοὺς πολεμίους. Καὶ ὁ τύραννος Ἀντίοχος καὶ 5
ἐπὶ γῆς τετιμώρηται, καὶ ἀποθανὼν κολάζεται· ὥς γὰρ οὐδὲν
οὐδαμῶς ἴσχυσεν ἀναγκάσαι τοὺς Ἱεροσολυμίτας ἀλλοφυλῆσαι,
καὶ τῶν πατριῶν ἐθνῶν ἐκδιατηθῆναι· τότε δὴ ἀπάρας ἀπὸ τῶν 6
Ἱεροσολύμων ἐστρατοπέδευσεν ἐπὶ Πέρσας.

Ἐλεγεν δὲ ἡ μήτηρ τῶν ἐπτὰ παίδων καὶ ταῦτα ἡ δικαία τοῖς
τέκνοις, ὅτι ἐγὼ ἐγενήθην παρθένος ἄγνή, καὶ οὐχ ὑπερέβην 7
πατρικὸν οἶκον· ἐφύλασσον δὲ τὴν ὠκοδομουμένην πλευράν.
Οὐ διέφθειρέν με λυμεὼν τῆς ἐρῆμίας φθορεὺς ἐν πεδίῳ· οὐδὲ 8
ἐλυμήνατό μου τὰ ἀγνὰ τῆς παρθενίας λυμεὼν ἀπατηλὸς ὄφις·
ἔμεινα δὲ χρόνον ἀκμῆς σὺν ἀνδρί.

Τούτων δὲ ἐνελίκων γενομένων ἐτελεύτησεν ὁ πατήρ· μακά- 9
ριος μὲν ἐκείνος· τὸν γὰρ τῆς εὐτεκνίας βίον ἐπιζητήσας, τὸν
τῆς ἀτεκνίας οὐκ ὠδυνήθη καιρόν. Ὅς ἐδίδασκεν ὑμᾶς, ἔτι ὧν 10
σὺν ὑμῖν, τὸν νόμον καὶ τοὺς προφῆτας.

Τὸν ἀναιρεθέντα Ἀβὲλ ὑπὸ Κάϊν ἀνεγίνωσκεν δὲ ἡμῖν, καὶ 11
τὸν ὀλοκαρπούμενον Ἰσαὰκ, καὶ τὸν ἐν φυλακῇ Ἰωσήφ. Ἐλε- 12
γεν δὲ ἡμῖν τὸν ζηλωτὴν Φινεὲς· ἐδίδασκεν δὲ ὑμᾶς τοὺς ἐν πυρὶ
Ἀνανίαν, καὶ Ἀζαρίαν, καὶ Μισαήλ. Ἐδόξαζεν δὲ καὶ τὸν ἐν 13
λάκκῳ λεόντων Δανιήλ, ὃν καὶ ἐμακάριζεν.

Ὑπερίμνησεν δὲ ὑμᾶς τὴν Ἡσαίου γραφὴν τὴν λέγουσαν, 14
καὶν διὰ πυρὸς διέλθης, φλόξ οὐ κατακαύσει σε. Τὸν ὑμνογρά- 15

φον ἐμελώδει ὑμῖν Δαβὶδ τὸν λέγοντα, πολλαὶ αἱ θλίψεις τῶν
 16 δικαίων. Τὸν Σαλομώντα ἐπαροιμιάζεν ἡμῖν τὸν λέγοντα, ξύλον
 17 ζωῆς ἐστὶν πᾶσιν τοῖς ποιοῦσιν αὐτοῦ τὸ θέλημα. Τὸν Ἰεζεκιὴλ
 ἐπιστοποιεῖτο τὸν λέγοντα, εἰ ζήσεται τὰ ὀστᾶ τὰ ξηρὰ ταῦτα;
 18 Ὡδὴν μὲν γὰρ ἦν ἐδίδασκεν Μωϋσῆς οὐκ ἐπελάθετο τὴν διδά-
 19 σκουσαν, ἐγὼ ἀποκτενῶ καὶ ζῆν ποιήσω. Αὕτη ἡ ζωὴ ἡμῶν
 καὶ ἡ μακαριότης τῶν ἡμερῶν.
 20 Ὡ πικρᾶς τῆς τότε ἡμέρας, καὶ οὐ πικρᾶς, ὅτε ὁ πικρὸς Ἑλλή-
 νων τύραννος πῦρ φλέξας λέβησιν ὤμοις, καὶ ζέουσι θυμοῖς
 ἀγαγὼν ἐπὶ τὸν καταπέλτην καὶ πάλιν τὰς βασάνους αὐτοῦ τοὺς
 21 ἐπὶ τὰ παῖδας τῆς Ἀβρααμίτιδος. Τὰς τῶν ὀμμάτων κόρας ἐπή-
 ρωσεν, καὶ γλώσσας ἐξέτεμεν, καὶ βασάνοις ποικίλαις ἀπέκτεινεν.
 22 Ὑπὲρ ὧν ἡ θεία δίκη μετήλθεν καὶ μετελεύσεται τὸν ἀλάστορα.
 23 Οἱ δὲ Ἀβραμαῖοι παῖδες σὺν τῇ ἀθλοφόρῳ μητρὶ, εἰς
 πατέρων χορὸν συναγελάζονται, ψυχὰς ἀγνὰς καὶ ἀθανάτους
 24 ἀπειληφότες παρὰ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ὡ ἡ δόξα εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν
 αἰώνων. Ἀμήν.

hymn-writer, who saith, Many are the afflic-
 tions of the just. ¹⁶ He declared the proverbs
 of Solomon, who saith, He is a tree of life
 to all those who do His will. ¹⁷ He used
 to verify Ezekiel, who said, Shall these dry
 bones live? ¹⁸ For he did not forget the
 song which Moses taught, proclaiming, I
 will kill, and I will make to live. ¹⁹ This
 is our life, and the length of our days.

²⁰ O that bitter, and yet not bitter, day
 when the bitter tyrant of the Greeks, quench-
 ing fire with fire in his cruel caldrons,
 brought with boiling rage the seven sons of
 the daughter of Abraham to the catapult,
 and to all his torments! ²¹ He pierced the
 balls of their eyes, and cut out their
 tongues, and put them to death with varied
 tortures. ²² Wherefore divine retribution
 pursued and will pursue the pestilent
 wretch.

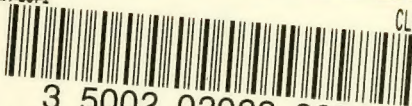
²³ But the children of Abraham, with
 their victorious mother, are assembled to-
 gether to the choir of their fathers; having
 received pure and immortal souls from
 God. ²⁴ To whom be glory for ever and
 ever. Amen.

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